

BUFFY

THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

JOSS WHEDON
CHRISTOS GAGE ERIKA ALEXANDER
GEORGES JEANTY JONATHAN LAM
KARL STORY DAN JACKSON

SEASON 12
LIBRARY EDITION



Buffy

the vampire slayer™

Into every generation, a Slayer is born; a Chosen One. They alone will wield the strength and skill to fight the vampires, demons, and the forces of darkness; to stop the spread of their evil and the swell of their number. They are the Slayer.



Buffy

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SEASON 12

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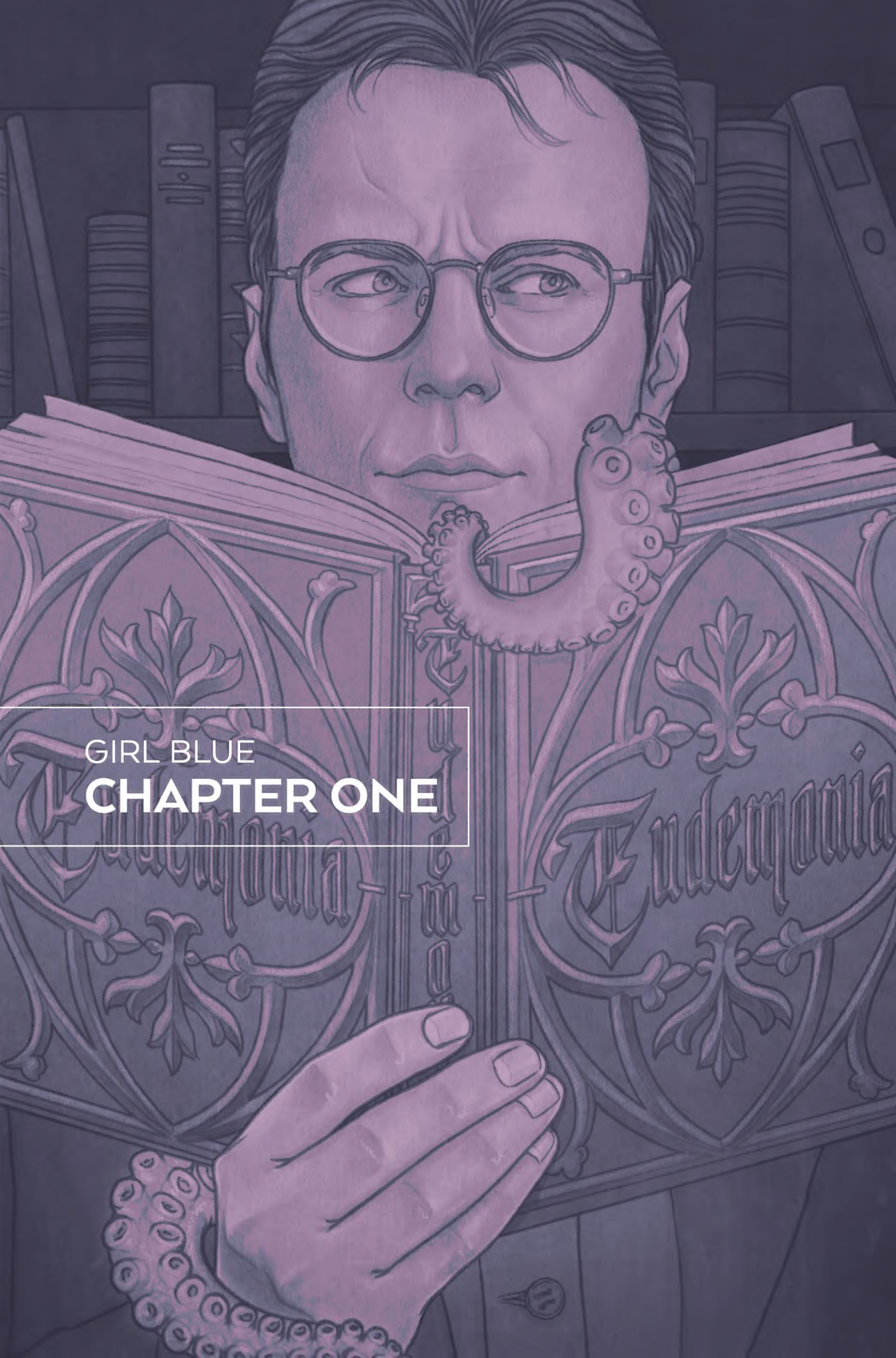
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GIRL BLUE



GIRL BLUE

CHAPTER ONE

DAY, ST. THOMAS BRIDGE,
SAN PEDRO. ECLIPSE.

HOOOW!!

GIRL BLUE

PART ONE

I AM THAT GUY, A DEATH MERCHANT,
DOOMING EVERYTHING I TOUCH. SO, ON
THIS DAY WITHOUT LIGHT, MY SINS LAID
BARE, I CONDEMN MYSELF TO DEATH.

YET, THROUGH HER BLOODY KISS I WILL
BE REBORN. IMMORTAL. BECAUSE LIVING
LIFE IS HEAVEN'S HELL AND CHASING
DEMONS IS CHASING ONE'S OWN TALE.

AND ALL OF
THIS FOR...A GIRL..
WELL...KINDA.

LOO-VE
SUU-CKs!

MOTHER!
HOWL!

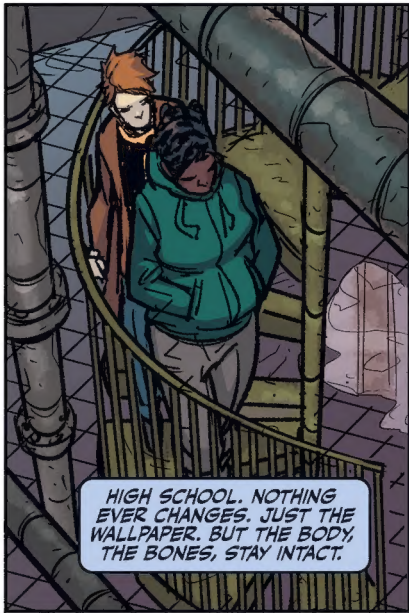
GLUG
GLU
GLUG

HOLD ON,
DON'T DIE
WITHOUT
ME...

GLUG

GLUG

I CAN'T
BREATHE.





WHAT?

THIS'LL HURT. SORRY.

SAY WHAT?

BARKING. LOTS OF IT. AND ≡SNIFF≡ PEACHES?

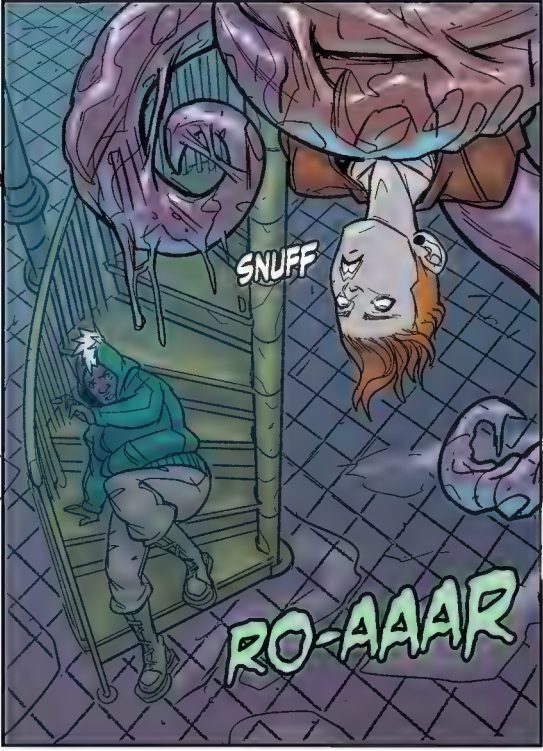


AND DEMONS, OH MY.



WHOOSH

AHHHH! HELP ME!! ROUX--! ARGH--



SNUFF

RO-AAAR



SWIFF



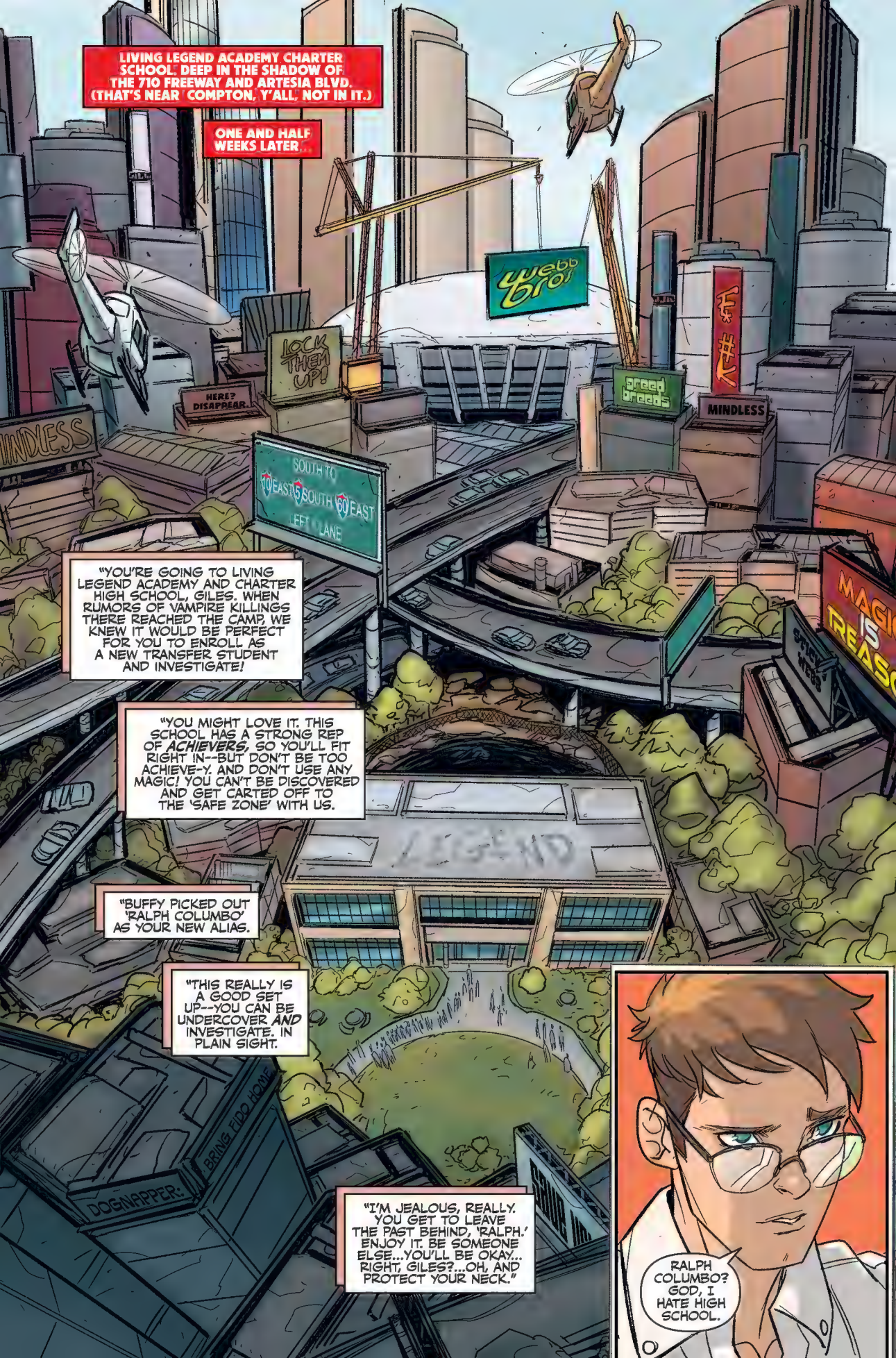
BRINNING BRINNING



BRINNING BRINNING BRINNING

THAT PURPLE THING KILLED HIM...

BUT HELL...WE ALL DIE A LITTLE IN HIGH SCHOOL.



LIVING LEGEND ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL, DEEP IN THE SHADOW OF THE 710 FREEWAY AND ARTESIA BLVD. (THAT'S NEAR COMPTON, Y'ALL, NOT IN IT.)

ONE AND HALF WEEKS LATER.

"YOU'RE GOING TO LIVING LEGEND ACADEMY AND CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL, GILES. WHEN RUMORS OF VAMPIRE KILLINGS THERE REACHED THE CAMP, WE KNEW IT WOULD BE PERFECT FOR YOU TO ENROLL AS A NEW TRANSFER STUDENT AND INVESTIGATE!

"YOU MIGHT LOVE IT. THIS SCHOOL HAS A STRONG REP OF **ACHIEVERS**, SO YOU'LL FIT RIGHT IN--BUT DON'T BE TOO ACHIEVE-Y. AND DON'T USE ANY MAGIC! YOU CAN'T BE DISCOVERED AND GET CARTED OFF TO THE 'SAFE ZONE' WITH US.

"BUFFY PICKED OUT 'RALPH COLUMBO' AS YOUR NEW ALIAS.

"THIS REALLY IS A GOOD SET UP--YOU CAN BE UNDERCOVER AND INVESTIGATE. IN PLAIN SIGHT.

"I'M JEALOUS, REALLY. YOU GET TO LEAVE THE PAST BEHIND, 'RALPH.' ENJOY IT. BE SOMEONE ELSE...YOU'LL BE OKAY... RIGHT, GILES?...OH, AND PROTECT YOUR NECK."

RALPH COLUMBO? GOD, I HATE HIGH SCHOOL.



THE QUAD.

HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN? NOTHING'S CHANGED. NOT EVEN THE WALLPAPER.

HIGH SCHOOL, A WORLD WITHOUT END. "BE SOMEONE ELSE"? NO THANKS, WILLOW.



HOODIE FEVER. CHARMING. THEY'RE ALL NON-CONFORMISTS.

AND YET, THE SEAMS ARE UNRAVELING.

FOLLOW THE DAILY LEGEND! READ THE LATEST NEWS!



DISMAL TROPHIES. PENANCE FOR SINS COMMITTED IN PAST LIVES. MEA CULPA ALREADY.

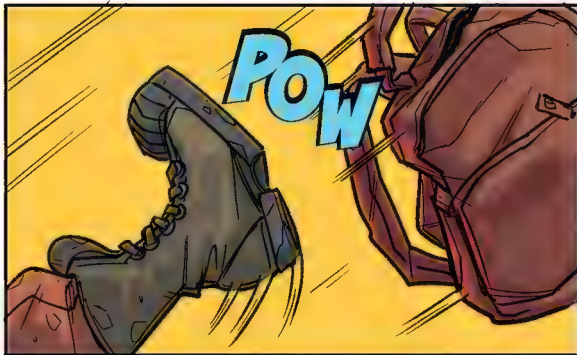


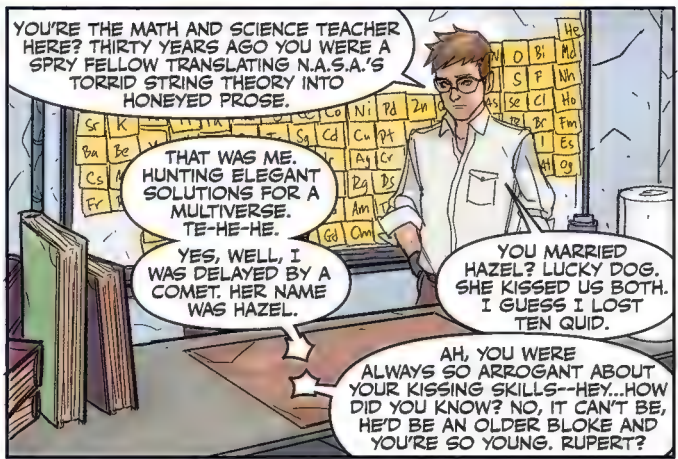
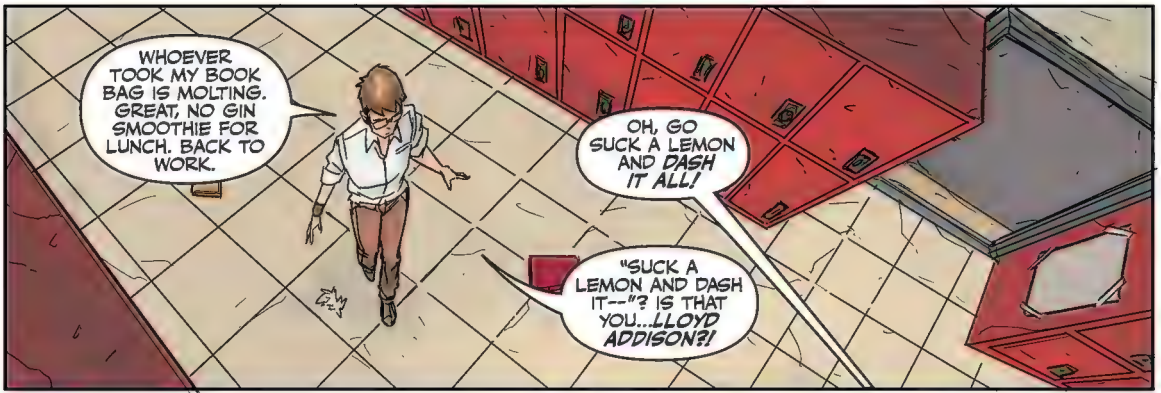
APPALLING. A NAPPING INSTRUCTOR. THE COMMONNESS OF THIS CORE IS ROTTEN. THE STENCH FAMILIAR, BUT IS IT EVIL OR MERELY NEGLECT? IS THERE A DIFFERENCE?

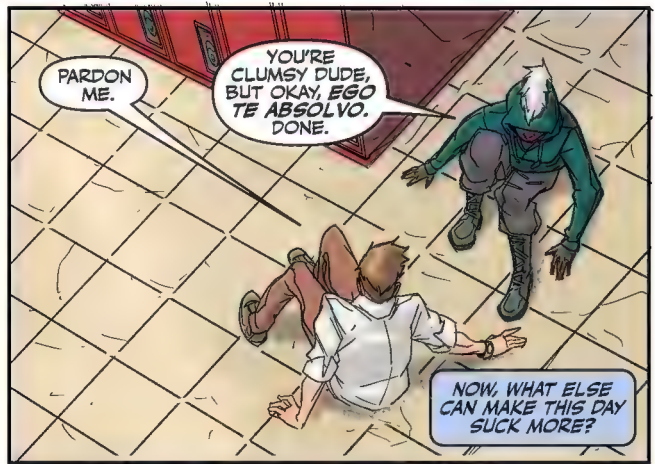
HEY, NERD FACE! HANDS UP!

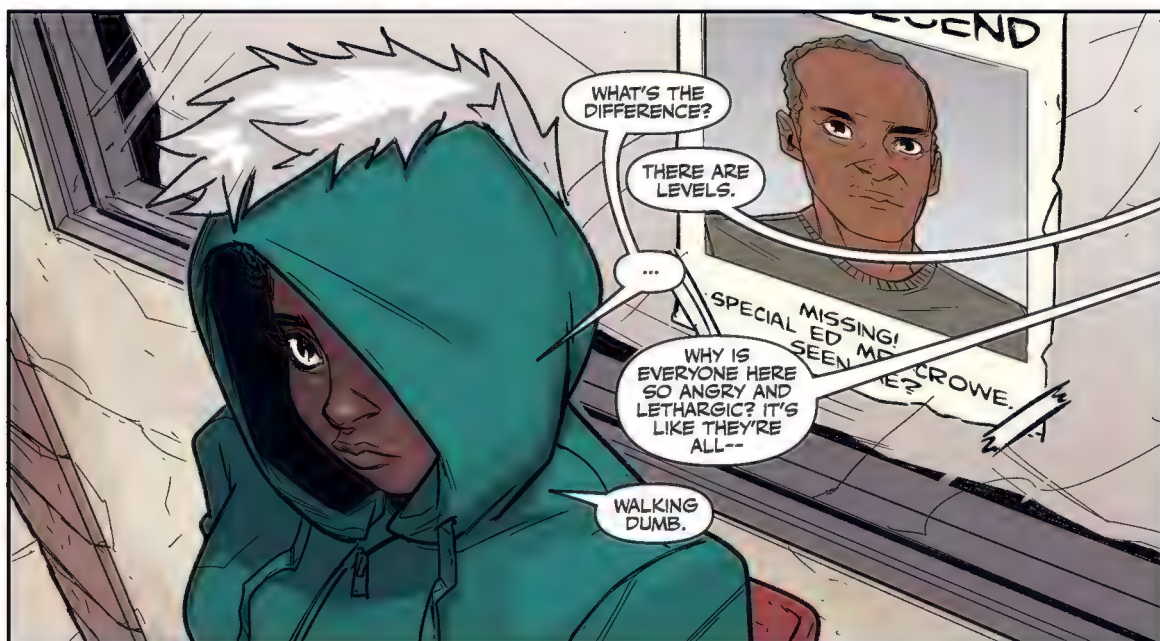
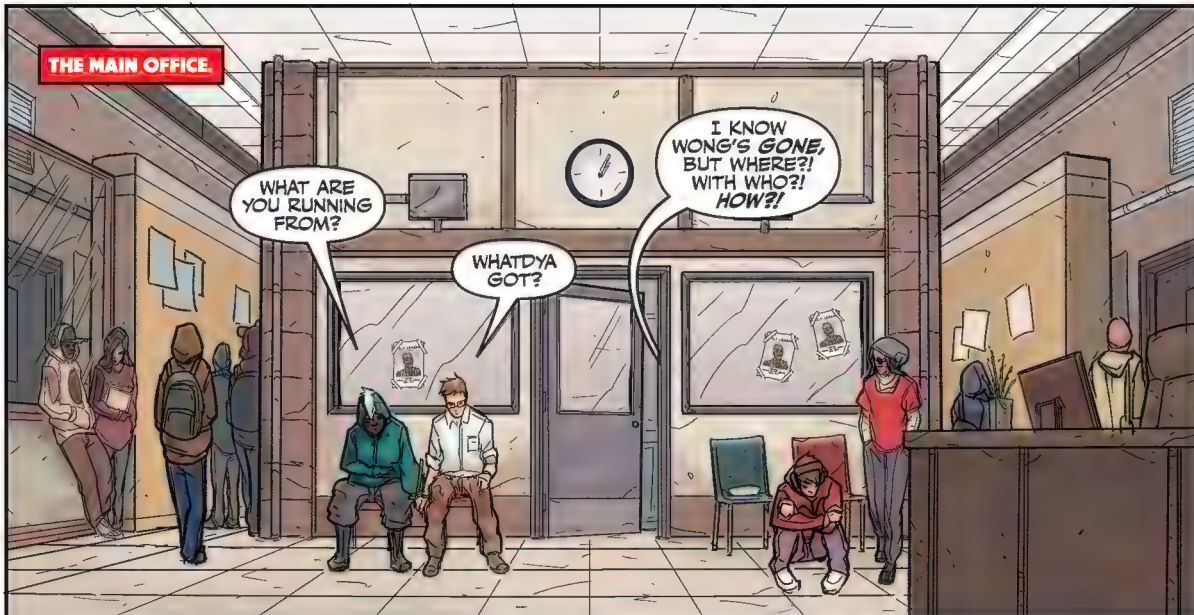
BRILLIANT, I'VE BEEN MADE.

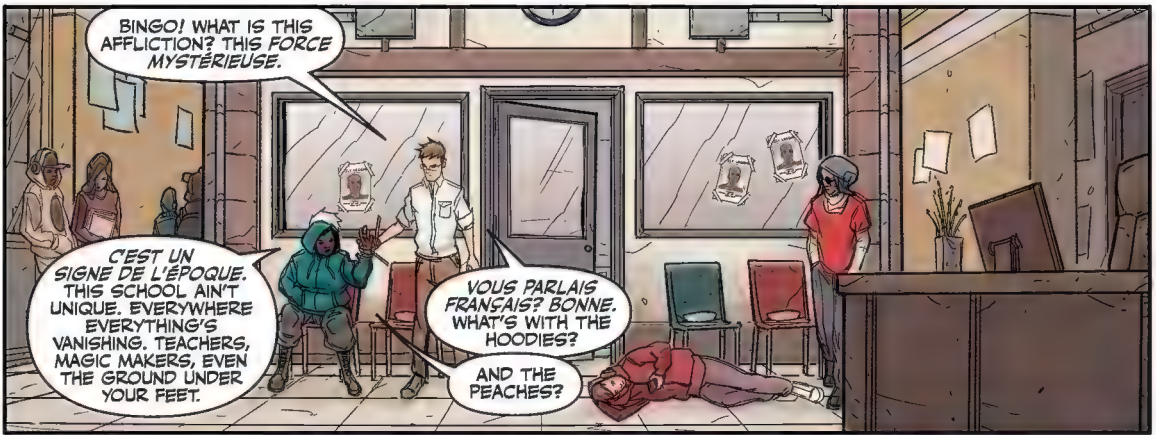










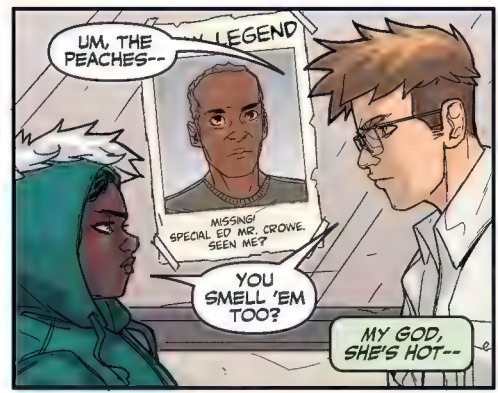


BINGO! WHAT IS THIS AFFLICTION? THIS FORCE MYSTÉRIEUSE.

C'EST UN SIGNE DE L'ÉPOQUE. THIS SCHOOL AIN'T UNIQUE. EVERYWHERE EVERYTHING'S VANISHING. TEACHERS, MAGIC MAKERS, EVEN THE GROUND UNDER YOUR FEET.

VOUS PARLAIS FRANÇAIS? BONNE. WHAT'S WITH THE HOODIES?

AND THE PEACHES?

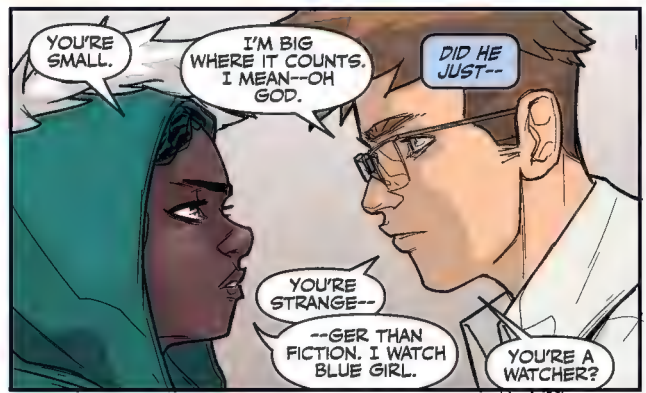


UM, THE PEACHES--

LEGEND
MISSING! SPECIAL ED MR. CROWE. SEEN ME?

YOU SMELL 'EM TOO?

MY GOD, SHE'S HOT--



YOU'RE SMALL.

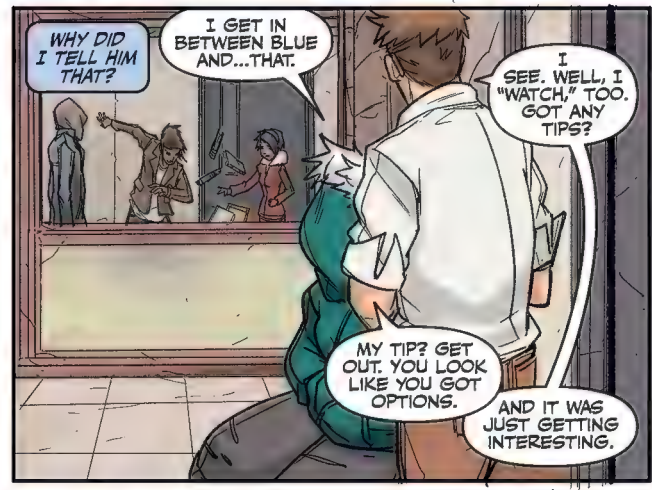
I'M BIG WHERE IT COUNTS. I MEAN--OH GOD.

DID HE JUST--

YOU'RE STRANGE--

--GER THAN FICTION. I WATCH BLUE GIRL.

YOU'RE A WATCHER?



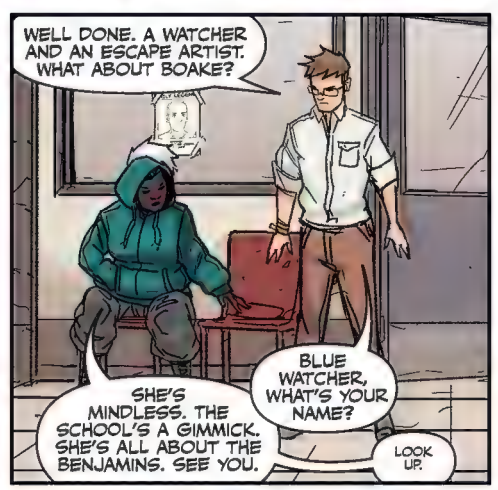
WHY DID I TELL HIM THAT?

I GET IN BETWEEN BLUE AND...THAT.

I SEE. WELL, I "WATCH," TOO. GOT ANY TIPS?

MY TIP? GET OUT. YOU LOOK LIKE YOU GOT OPTIONS.

AND IT WAS JUST GETTING INTERESTING.



WELL DONE. A WATCHER AND AN ESCAPE ARTIST. WHAT ABOUT BOAKE?

BLUE WATCHER, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

SHE'S MINDLESS. THE SCHOOL'S A GIMMICK. SHE'S ALL ABOUT THE BENJAMINS. SEE YOU.

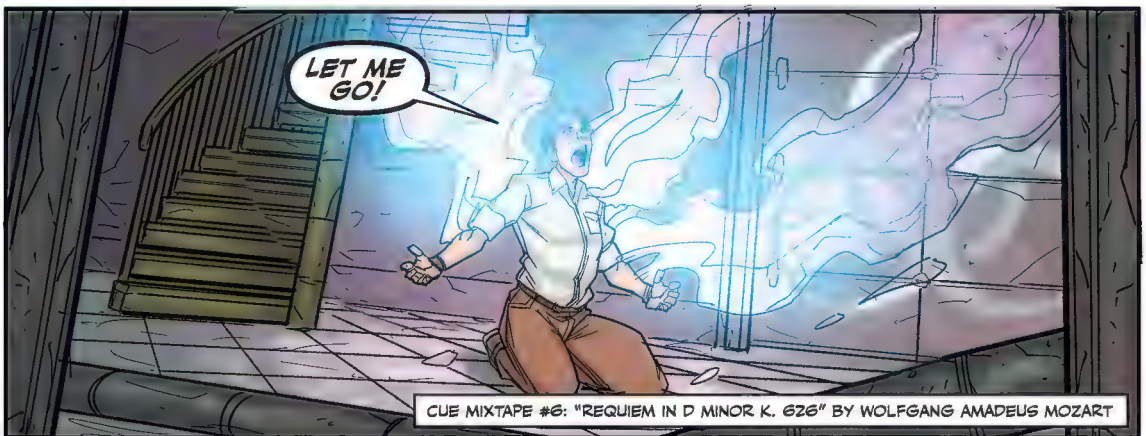
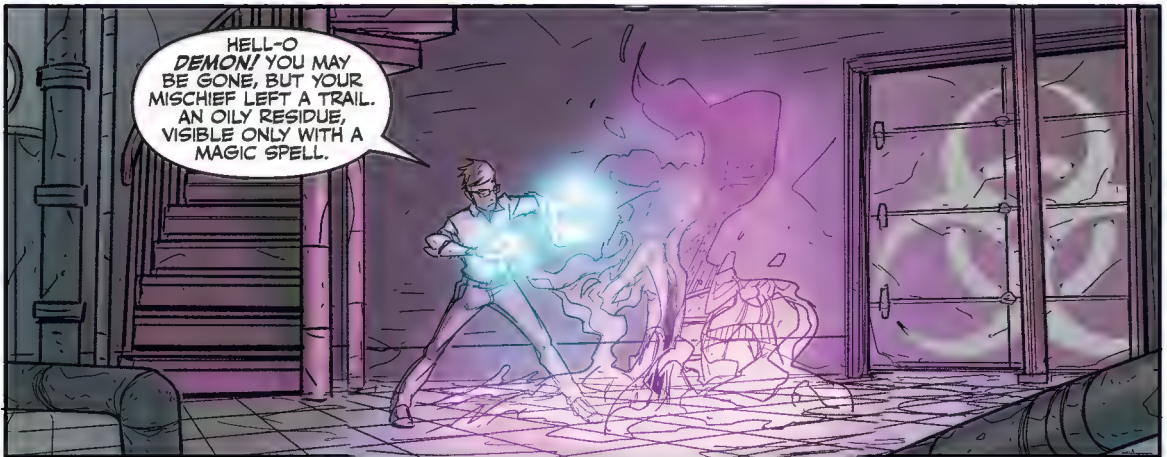
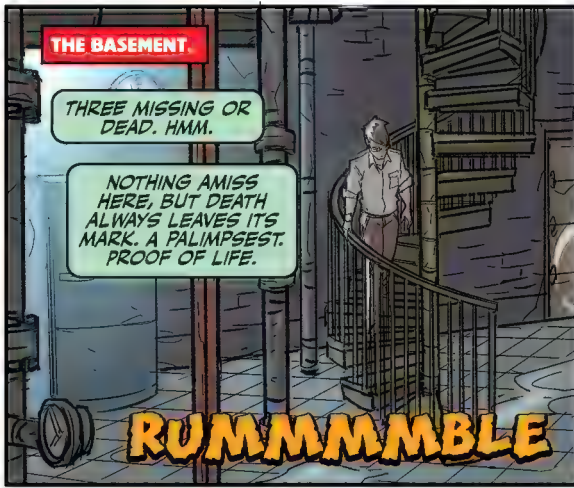
LOOK UP.

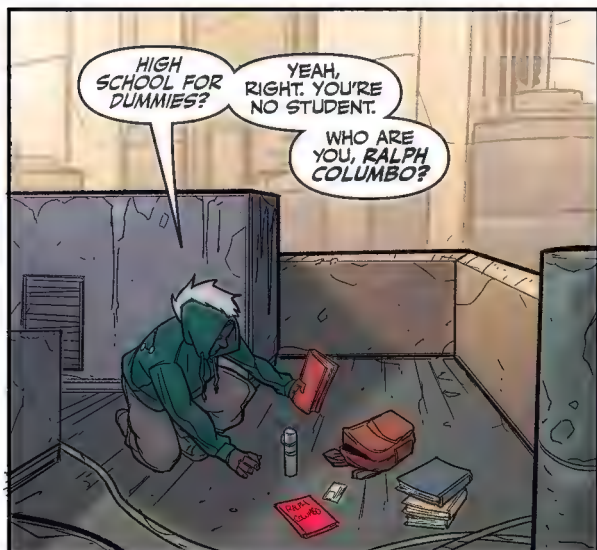


ROUX

ROUX.

CUE MIXTAPE #5: "FIGURE EIGHT" BY BLOSSOM DEARIE





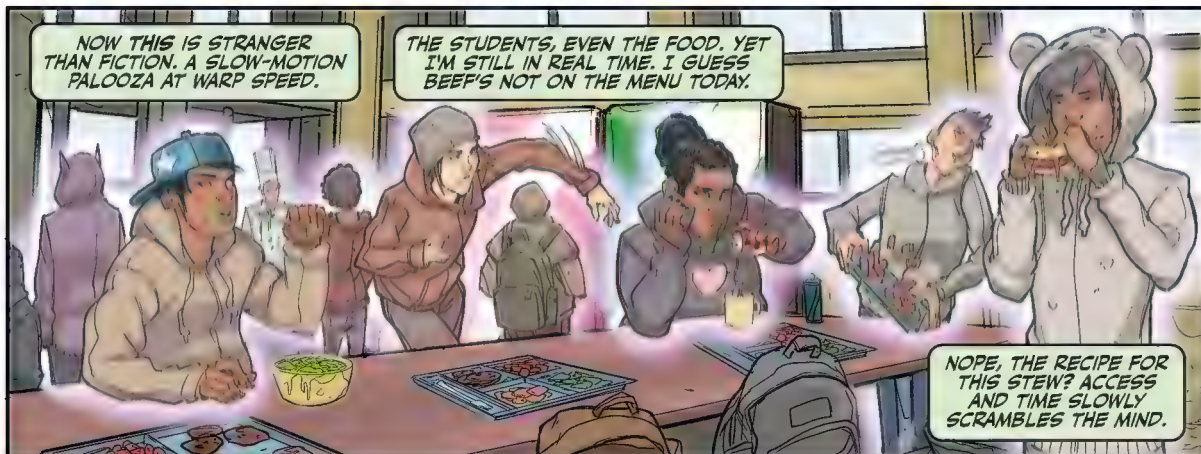
THE CAFETERIA.

LUNCH TIME.
EASY PEASY, GILES.
IN HERE YOU'RE JUST
ANOTHER HUNGRY
TEENAGER, LIKE
EVERYONE...
ELSE?



NOW THIS IS STRANGER
THAN FICTION. A SLOW-MOTION
PALOOZA AT WARP SPEED.

THE STUDENTS, EVEN THE FOOD. YET
I'M STILL IN REAL TIME. I GUESS
BEEF'S NOT ON THE MENU TODAY.



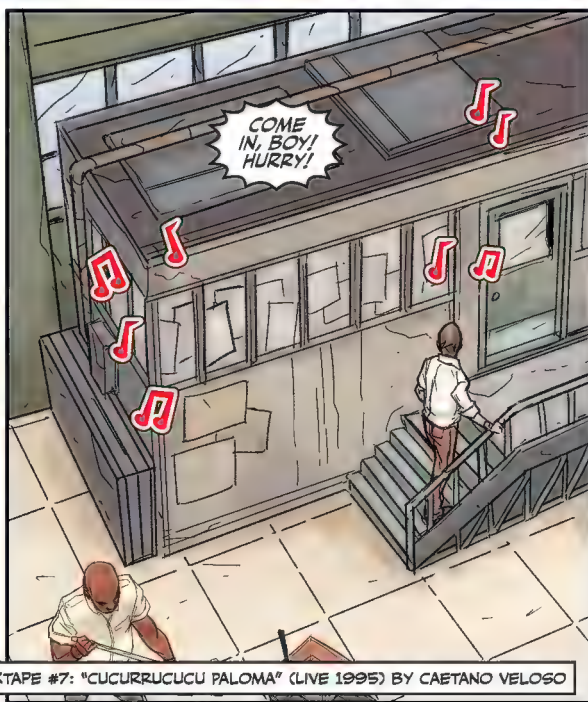
NOPE. THE RECIPE FOR
THIS STEW? ACCESS
AND TIME SLOWLY
SCRAMBLES THE MIND.

THIS IS A DEMON'S SPELL
AND SOMEWHERE HERE...WE
ARE NEAR...TO GROUND
ZERO--

DON'T
TOUCH IT,
FOOL!



COME
IN, BOY!
HURRY!





HURRY,
CLOSE IT!

WOW. THIS
IS...FRIGHTENING.
EXPECTING
ARMAGEDDON?

CHILD,
IT'S ALREADY
HERE.



I'M MRS. VEGA.
TEACHER'S AIDE.
THERE WERE OTHERS.
I'M ALL THAT'S
LEFT.

WHERE DID
THE OTHERS
GO?

HOME, FOOL,
BUT THEY LOST
THEMSELVES ALONG
THE WAY. I WARNED
THEM: REPENT. THEY
DIDN'T. THEY WERE
DRAINED.



DRAINED.

OPEN YOUR
EYES. LOOK.
SEE.

AREN'T YOU
A STUDENT?

WAS A
STUDENT. I
SELF-PROMOTED.
SHERYL SANDBERG
SAYS LEAN IN?

OH. GOOD
BOOK, A LITTLE
TOOTHY--

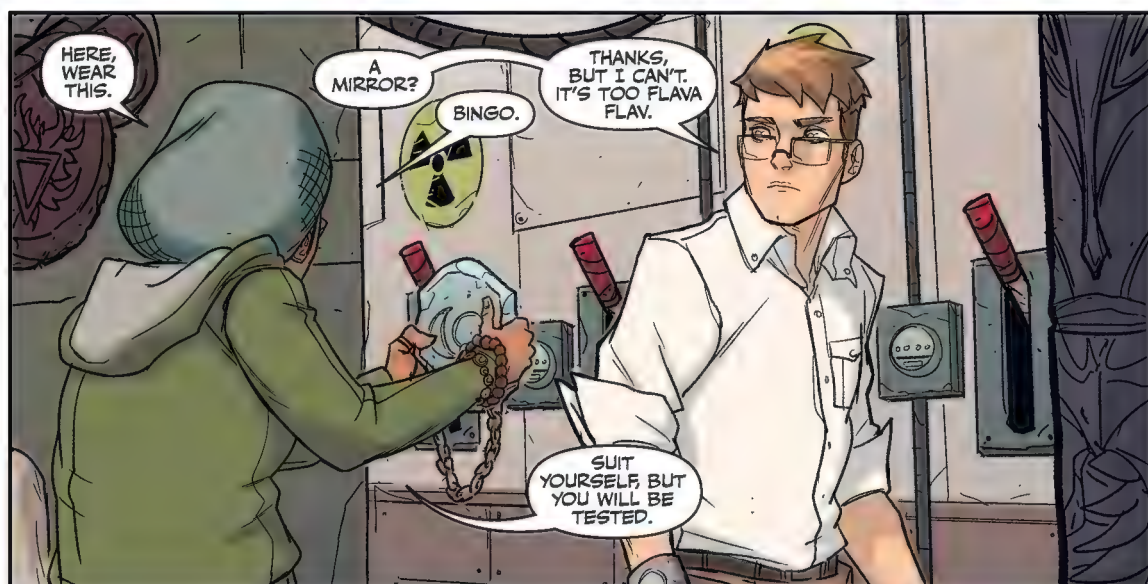
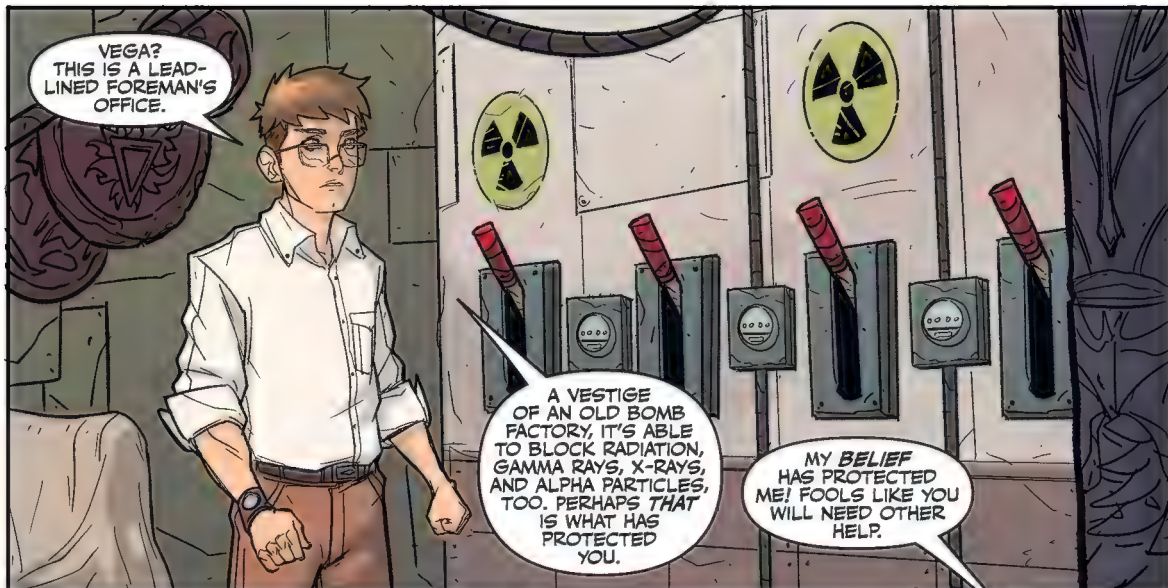


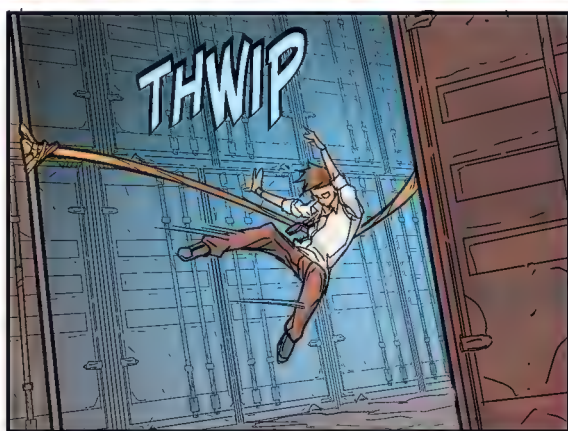
THIS IS PURGATORY! I
WAS SPARED BECAUSE
I AM FAITHFUL. I
BELIEVE.

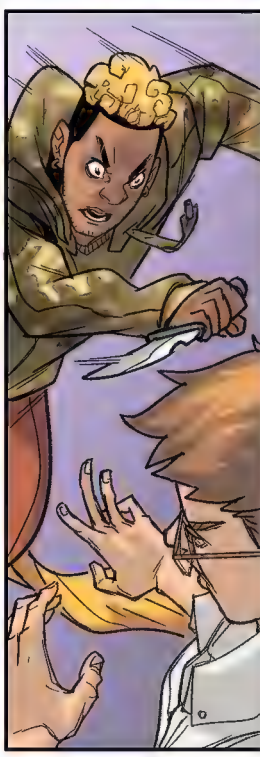
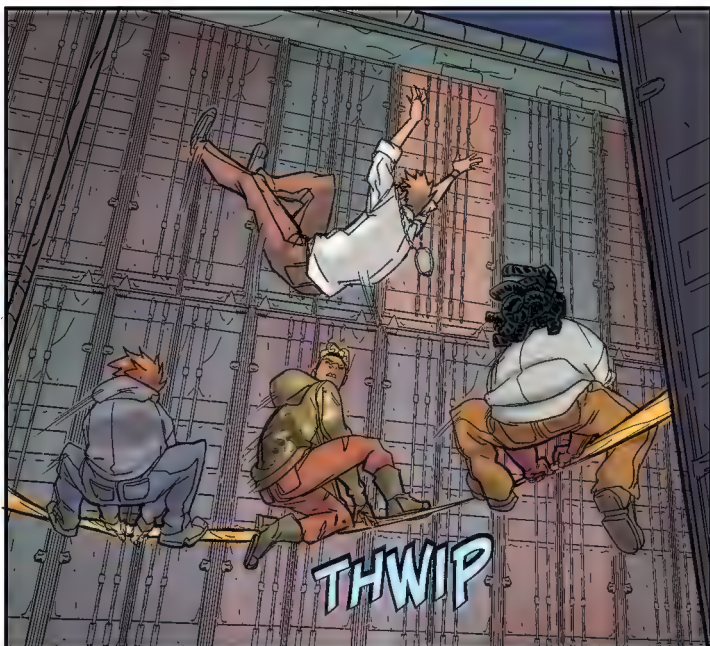
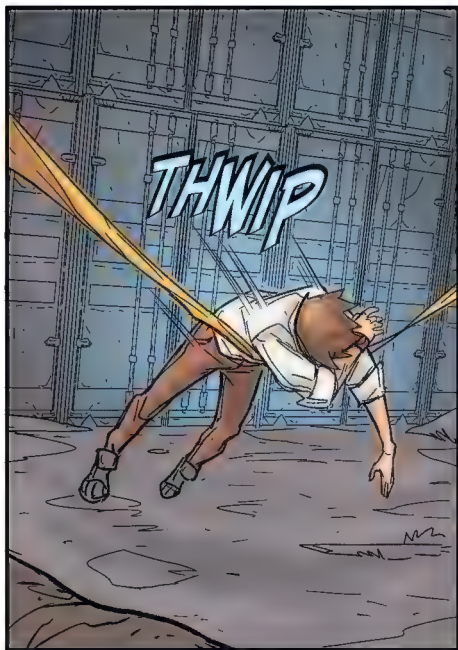
I, TOO,
BELIEVE, IN VAMPIRES
AND DEMONS. THERE
MAY BE A FEW IN THE
BASEMENT. MONSTERS
AMONG US.

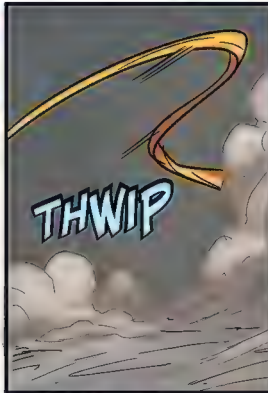
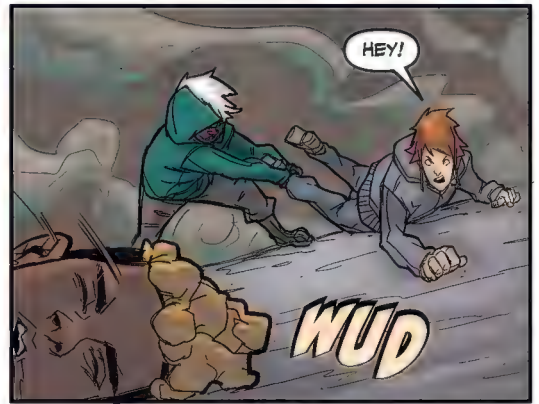
PLEASE.
THAT'S T.V. GARBAGE.
ONLY BATS AND HOUNDS
LIVE IN THE BASEMENT.
DO YOU HEAR THE
BARKING?

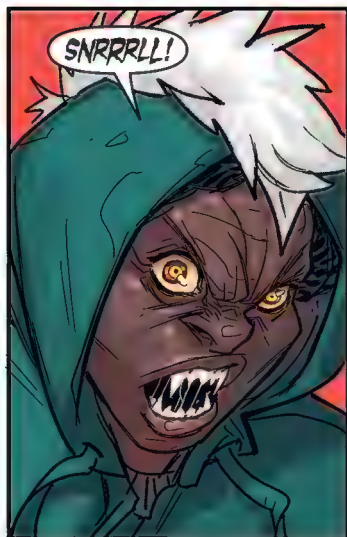
AND
ALL MEN ARE
MONSTERS, IT'S
JUST A MATTER
OF DEGREES--

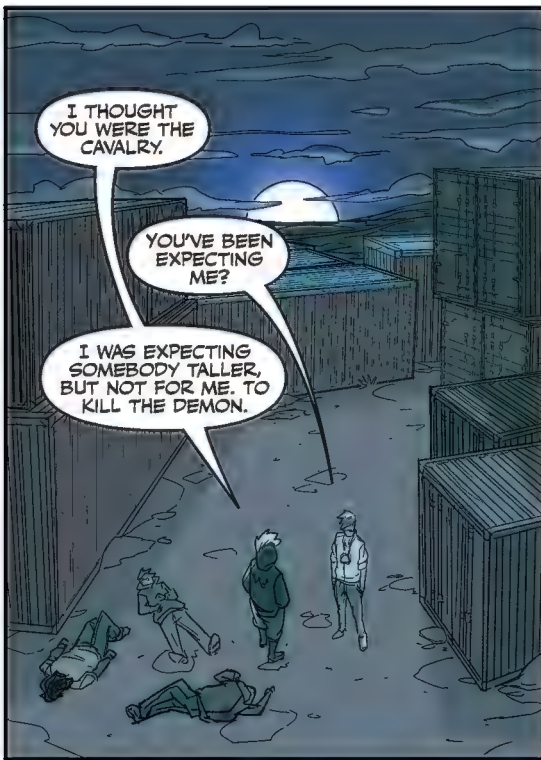












I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE CAVALRY.

YOU'VE BEEN EXPECTING ME?

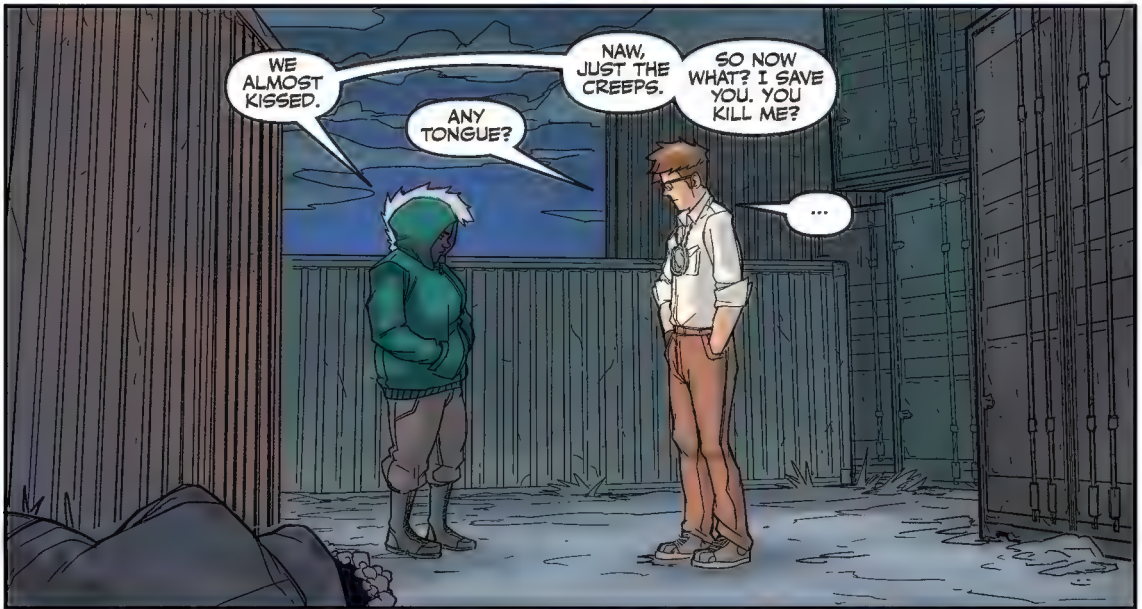
I WAS EXPECTING SOMEBODY TALLER, BUT NOT FOR ME. TO KILL THE DEMON.



THE DEMON?

DUH?

SO, YOU'VE SEEN IT?



WE ALMOST KISSED.

ANY TONGUE?

NAW, JUST THE CREEPS.

SO NOW WHAT? I SAVE YOU. YOU KILL ME?

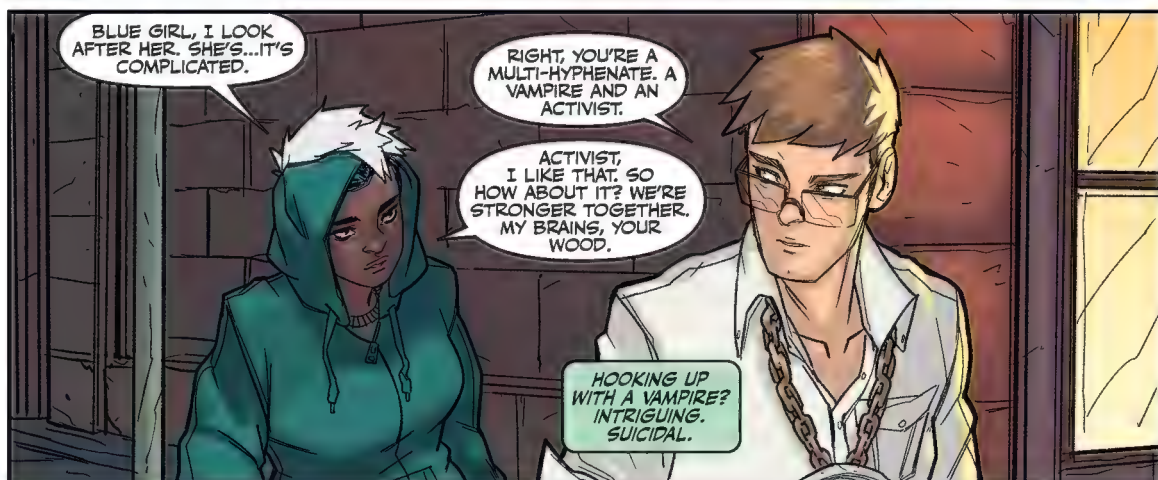
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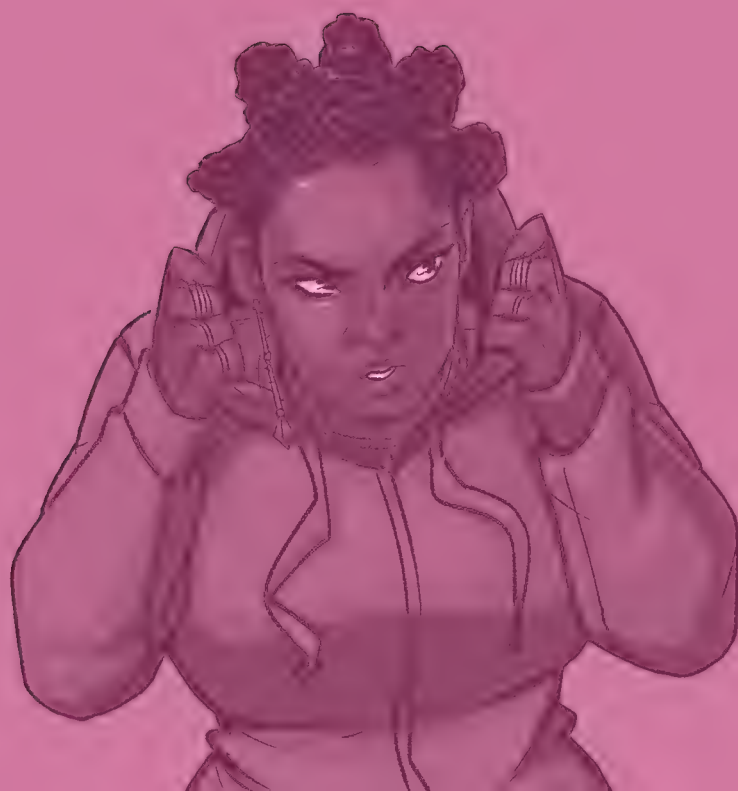


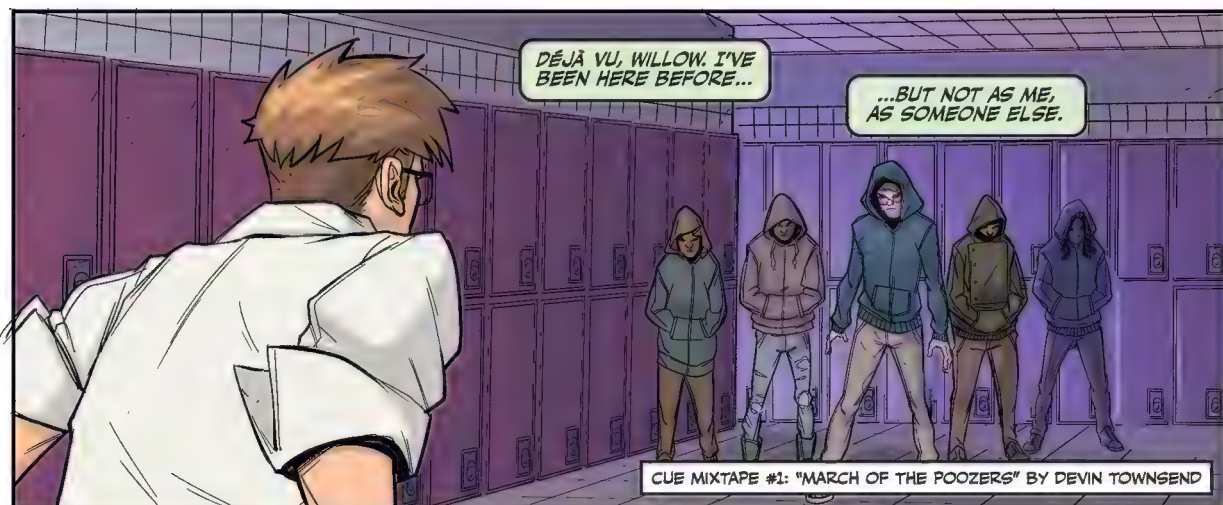
HE WHO HESITATES.

NO. I THINK NOT. NOT TODAY.

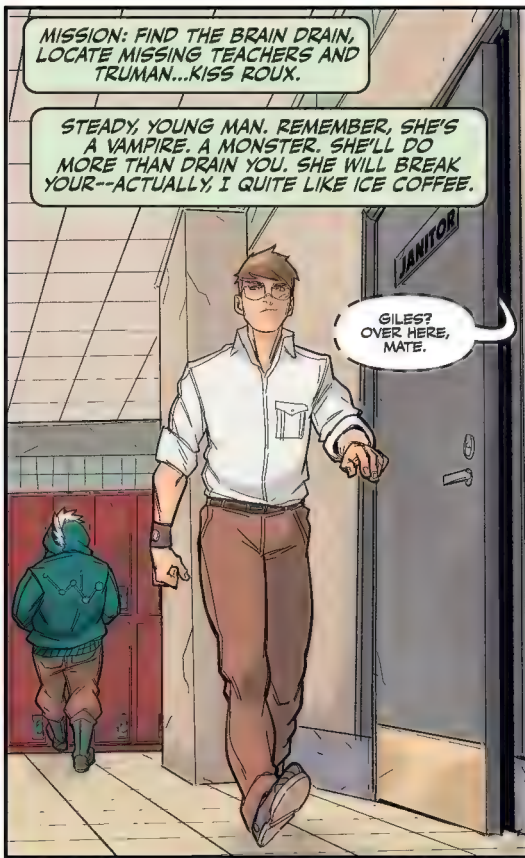
UHM, THANKS FOR BEING A WHITE MAN ABOUT IT.











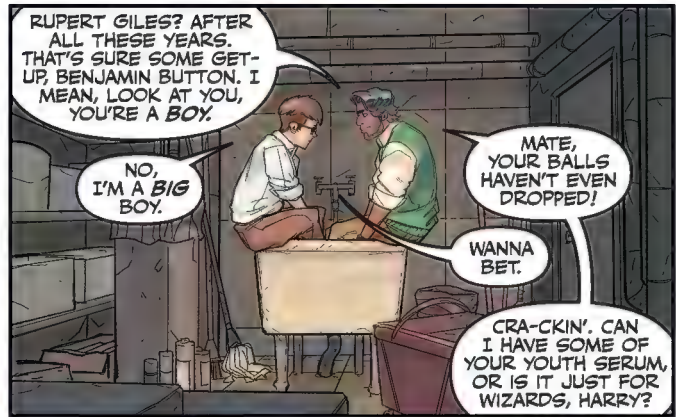
MISSION: FIND THE BRAIN DRAIN,
LOCATE MISSING TEACHERS AND
TRUMAN...KISS ROUX.

STEADY, YOUNG MAN. REMEMBER, SHE'S
A VAMPIRE. A MONSTER. SHE'LL DO
MORE THAN DRAIN YOU. SHE WILL BREAK
YOUR--ACTUALLY, I QUITE LIKE ICE COFFEE.

GILES?
OVER HERE,
MATE.



ADDY?
ACK!--



RUPERT GILES? AFTER
ALL THESE YEARS.
THAT'S SURE SOME GET-
UP, BENJAMIN BUTTON. I
MEAN, LOOK AT YOU,
YOU'RE A BOY.

NO,
I'M A BIG
BOY.

MATE,
YOUR BALLS
HAVEN'T EVEN
DROPPED!

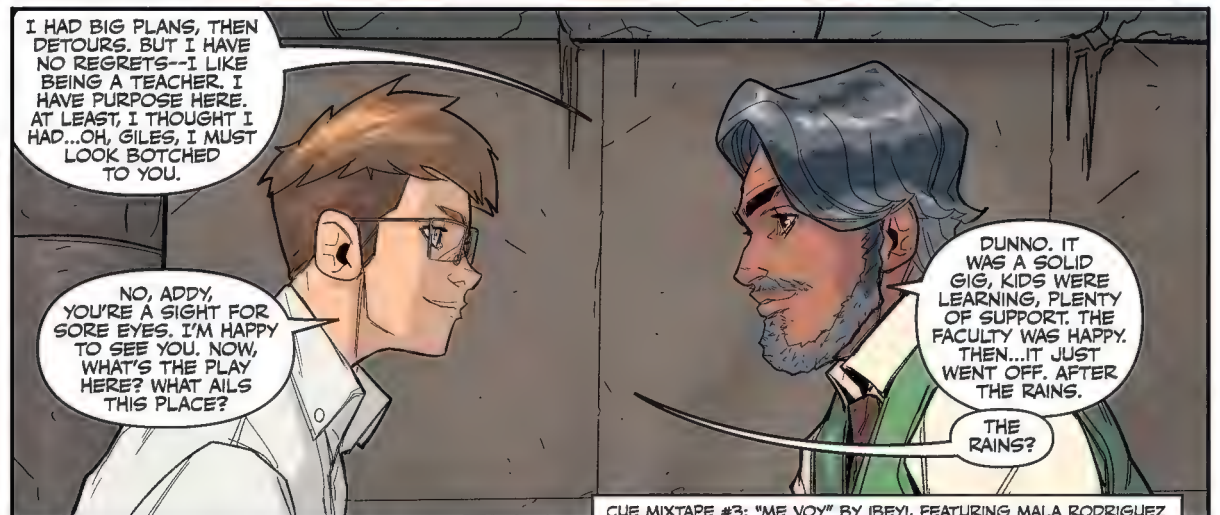
WANNA
BET.

CRA-CKIN'. CAN
I HAVE SOME OF
YOUR YOUTH SERUM.
OR IS IT JUST FOR
WIZARDS, HARRY?



YOU DON'T WANT WHAT
I'VE GOT. NEVERMIND
THAT, HOW'D YOU FALL
INTO THIS TEACHING
GIG? WHEN WE WERE AT
UNIVERSITY YOU WERE
ON TRACK TO BE AN
M.I.G. SCIENCE
OFFICER.

⚡SIGH⚡
TYPICAL STUFF. A
GIRL, A LOTTERY TICKET,
AND A BOTTLE OF
HENNESSEY. **DISASTER.**
SO I FLED TO AMERICA,
TOOK UP SURFING AND
BECAME A TEACHER.



I HAD BIG PLANS, THEN
DETOURS. BUT I HAVE
NO REGRETS--I LIKE
BEING A TEACHER. I
HAVE PURPOSE HERE.
AT LEAST, I THOUGHT I
HAD...OH, GILES, I MUST
LOOK BOTCHED
TO YOU.

NO, ADDY,
YOU'RE A SIGHT FOR
SORE EYES. I'M HAPPY
TO SEE YOU. NOW,
WHAT'S THE PLAY
HERE? WHAT AILS
THIS PLACE?

DUNNO. IT
WAS A SOLID
GIG, KIDS WERE
LEARNING, PLENTY
OF SUPPORT. THE
FACULTY WAS HAPPY.
THEN...IT JUST
WENT OFF. AFTER
THE RAINS.

THE
RAINS?

THREE MONTHS AGO...

"TORRENTIAL, MATE. AND THEN, THE SINKHOLE APPEARED."

"RIGHT BEHIND THE SCHOOL, UNDER THE TRIPLE PASS."

"THIS SCHOOL, ER...FACTORY, WAS BUILT ON A LANDFILL. THE GROUND IS COMPLETELY UNSTABLE."

"I'VE NOTICED THE SHAKING."

"RATTLE 'N' ROLL. IT'S BACKGROUND NOISE NOW, BUT THAT SINKHOLE... AFTER IT SHOWED UP, THE VIBE HAS NEVER BEEN THE SAME."

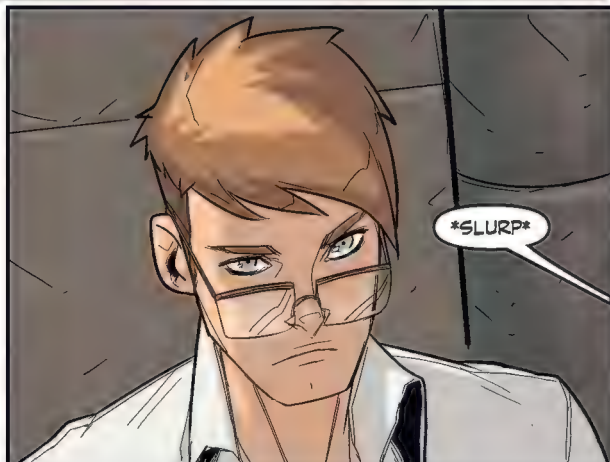
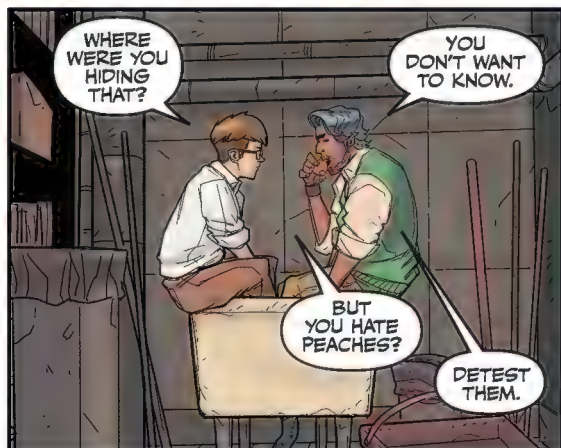
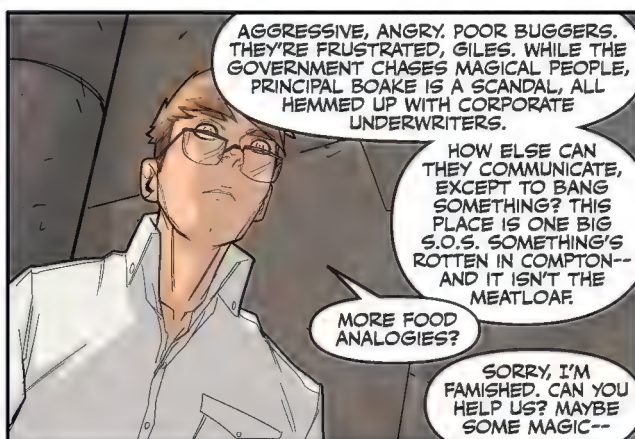
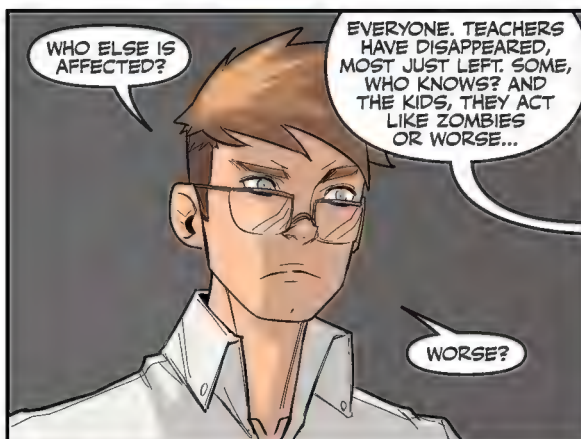
"SOMETHING UNHOLY WAS RELEASED. AND, GILES, IT SMELLED LIKE PEACHES."

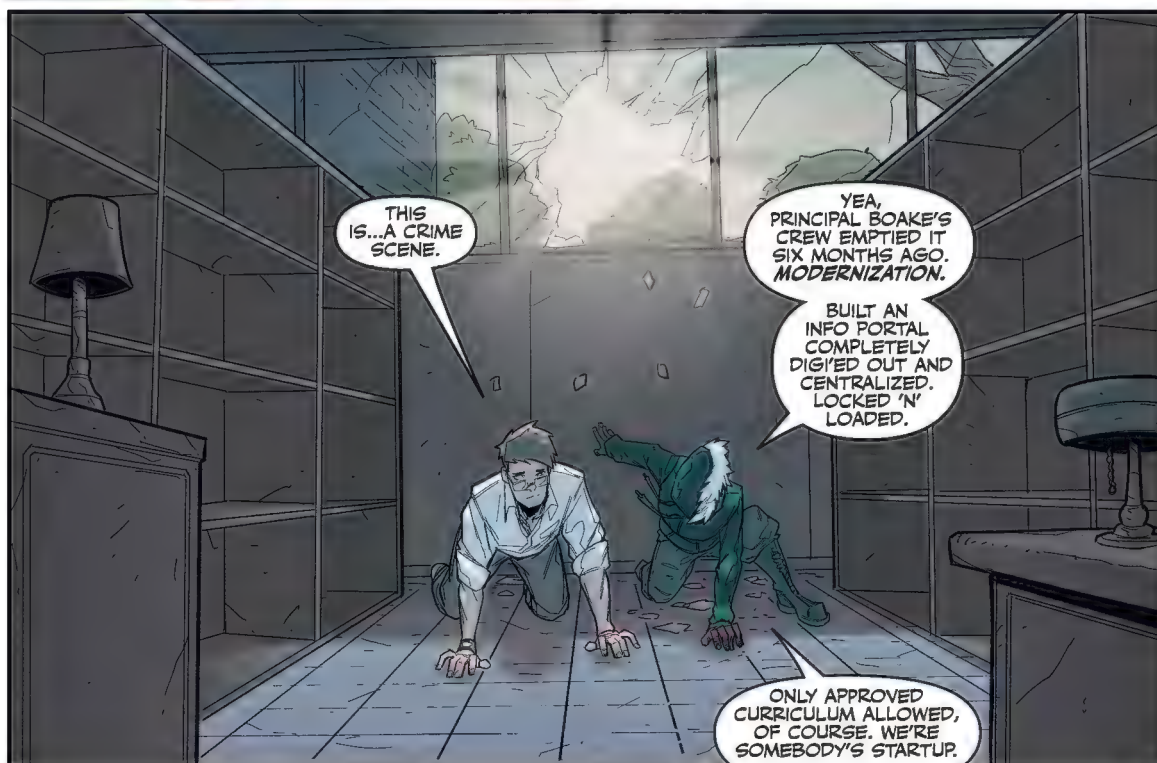
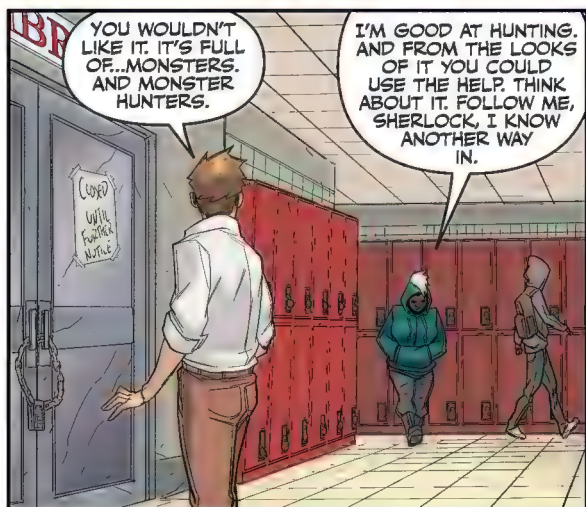
PEACHES?

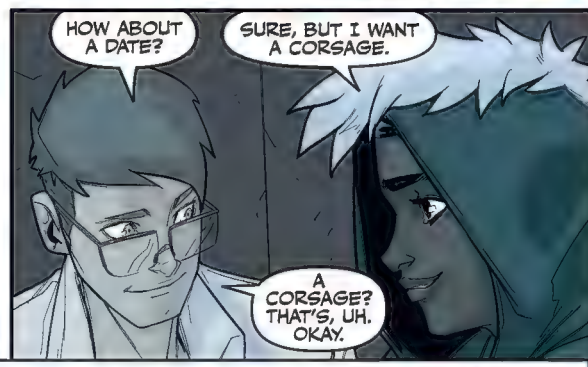
ALL DAY, MATE, AND I *HATE* PEACHES. MY NANNY FORCED LEFTOVER FRUIT COBBLERS ON US EVERY BOXING DAY. ALTHOUGH I DON'T MIND BLACK PUDDING--

FOCUS, MAN. "UNHOLY...?"

YES, INHUMAN. JUST LURKING. THEN A FOG DESCENDED. NOT ALL AT ONCE. IT'S LIKE MY BRAIN WAS BEING DRAINED.









KNOCK, KNOCK?

YOUR CONSCIENCE.

WHO'S THERE?!

HA! BEEN THERE. LOST THAT!



OH, KITT NIPPLES, IS THAT YOU?

SCUFFLES
RIPS

EX-CUSE YOU?

PARDON. MY BAD.

INDEED.



HATE TO BURST YOUR BUBBLE, BUT THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN STRAPPED TO A CHAIR AND HELD UPSIDE DOWN WHILE BEING QUESTIONED.

I AM AN OPEN BOOK.

NOTED.

JUST FYI, THIS IS NOT MY IDEA OF A DATE.

DULY NOTED.



WHY DID YOU SELL OUT THIS SCHOOL TO THE WEBB BROTHERS?

SELL OUT?! I BOUGHT IN!

CHARTER SCHOOLS ARE MONEY PITS. THEY NEEDED A SCHOOL TO SPONSOR AND TEST THEIR CURRICULUM. WE NEEDED THE DOUGH. NO MONEY, NO SCHOOL-Y.

THEN IT ALL WENT SOUTH. ED CROWE, BOOZER THAT HE IS, UP 'N' VANISHED CLUTCHING HIS BRASS FLASK. HE WAS A CHARMER, SO MISS WONG MUST'VE GOTTEN CAUGHT UP. THEN TRUMAN. THE WHOLE SHEBANG BROUGHT THE COPS INTO IT. I'M THE ONE UNDER SIEGE.



BOAKE, WHAT'S THE END GAME HERE?

YEA, WHO BENEFITS?

WE ALL DO. THESE KIDS GET TO BE PART OF THE FUTURE, I GET THE CREDIT, AND THE WEBB BROTHERS GET A MEDAL. EDU-CAPITALISM T.M., WITH A HEART. I RETIRE IN KOKOMO AND DISAPPEAR LIKE A SLOW HOT WIND!

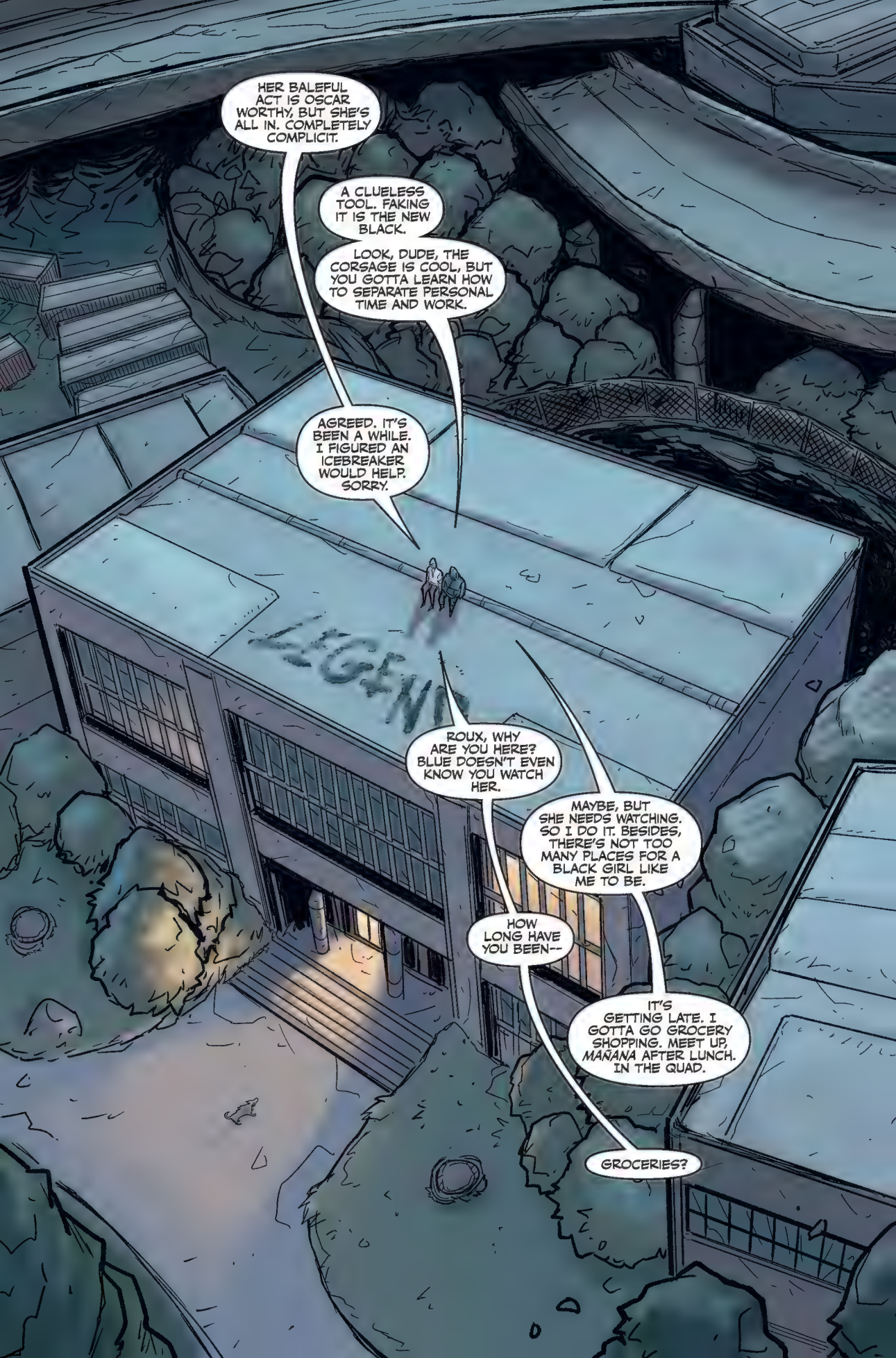


SOME PRINCIPAL. YOUR STUDENTS ARE GETTING DUMBER BY THE MOMENT.

TAKE IT UP WITH THE F.C.C. NOW TAKE ME DOWN OR PULL OUT A FEATHER.

HOW 'BOUT I JUST TAKE A BITE?

LEFT SIDE PLEASE. IF YOU FIND PROOF OF LIFE C.C. ME. I'M BLOODLESS. A SHELL. HAH.

An aerial, high-angle view of a large, multi-story building with a flat roof. The word "LEGION" is painted in large, dark letters across the center of the roof. Two small figures are standing on the roof near the center. The building is surrounded by trees and other structures. The scene is rendered in a comic book style with a muted color palette.

HER BALEFUL
ACT IS OSCAR
WORTHY, BUT SHE'S
ALL IN. COMPLETELY
COMPLICIT.

A CLUELESS
TOOL. FAKING
IT IS THE NEW
BLACK.

LOOK, DUDE, THE
CORSAGE IS COOL, BUT
YOU GOTTA LEARN HOW
TO SEPARATE PERSONAL
TIME AND WORK.

AGREED. IT'S
BEEN A WHILE.
I FIGURED AN
ICEBREAKER
WOULD HELP.
SORRY.

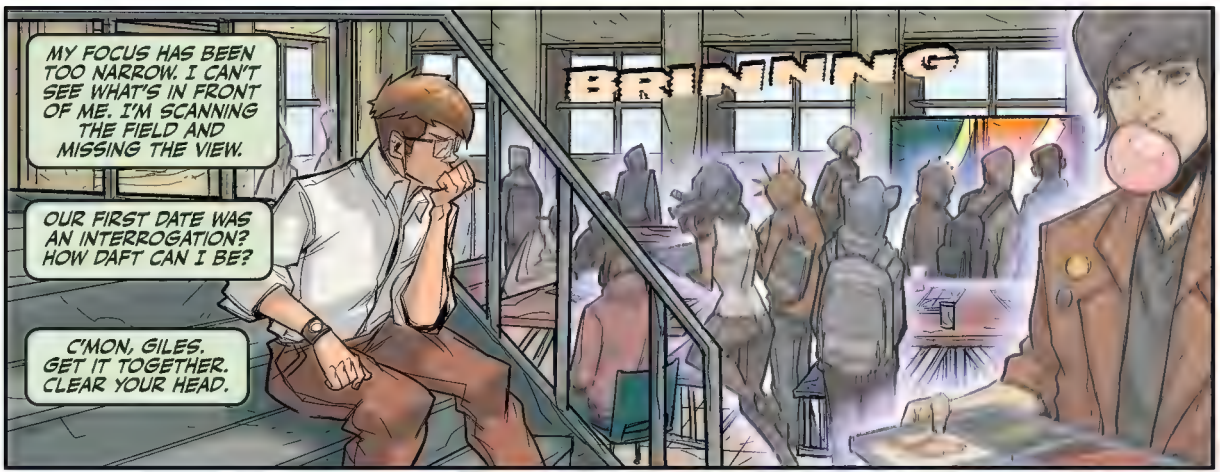
ROUX, WHY
ARE YOU HERE?
BLUE DOESN'T EVEN
KNOW YOU WATCH
HER.

MAYBE, BUT
SHE NEEDS WATCHING.
SO I DO IT. BESIDES,
THERE'S NOT TOO
MANY PLACES FOR A
BLACK GIRL LIKE
ME TO BE.

HOW
LONG HAVE
YOU BEEN--

IT'S
GETTING LATE. I
GOTTA GO GROCERY
SHOPPING. MEET UP,
MANANA AFTER LUNCH.
IN THE QUAD.

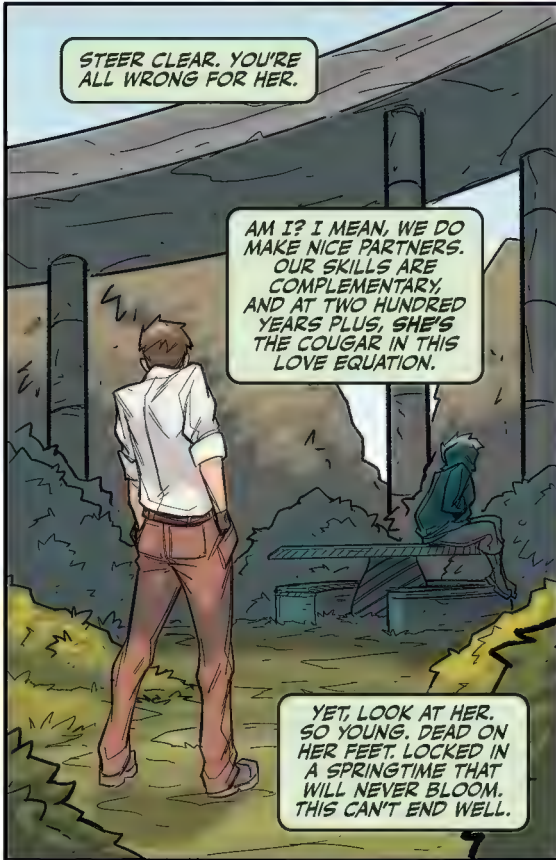
GROCERIES?



MY FOCUS HAS BEEN TOO NARROW. I CAN'T SEE WHAT'S IN FRONT OF ME. I'M SCANNING THE FIELD AND MISSING THE VIEW.

OUR FIRST DATE WAS AN INTERROGATION? HOW DAFT CAN I BE?

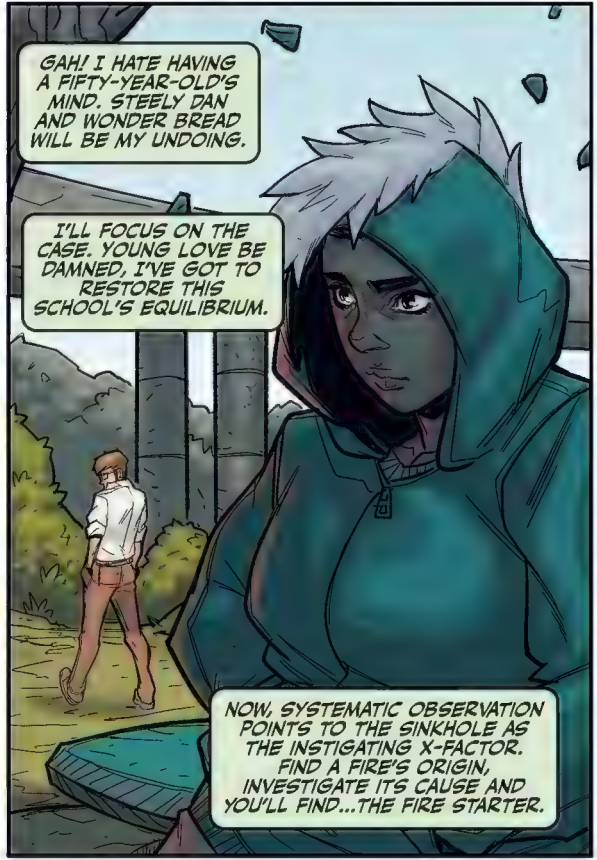
C'MON, GILES. GET IT TOGETHER. CLEAR YOUR HEAD.



STEER CLEAR. YOU'RE ALL WRONG FOR HER.

AM I? I MEAN, WE DO MAKE NICE PARTNERS. OUR SKILLS ARE COMPLEMENTARY, AND AT TWO HUNDRED YEARS PLUS, SHE'S THE COUGAR IN THIS LOVE EQUATION.

YET, LOOK AT HER. SO YOUNG. DEAD ON HER FEET. LOCKED IN A SPRINGTIME THAT WILL NEVER BLOOM. THIS CAN'T END WELL.



GAH! I HATE HAVING A FIFTY-YEAR-OLD'S MIND. STEELY DAN AND WONDER BREAD WILL BE MY UNDOING.

I'LL FOCUS ON THE CASE. YOUNG LOVE BE DAMNED, I'VE GOT TO RESTORE THIS SCHOOL'S EQUILIBRIUM.

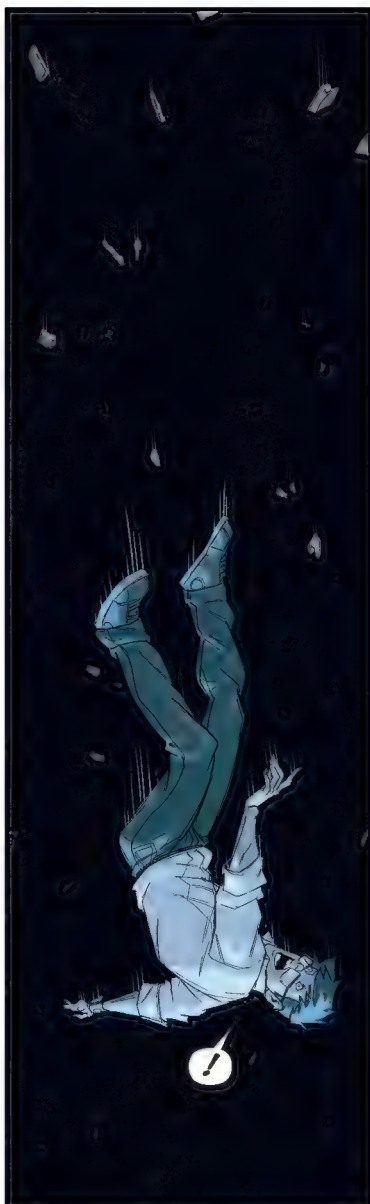
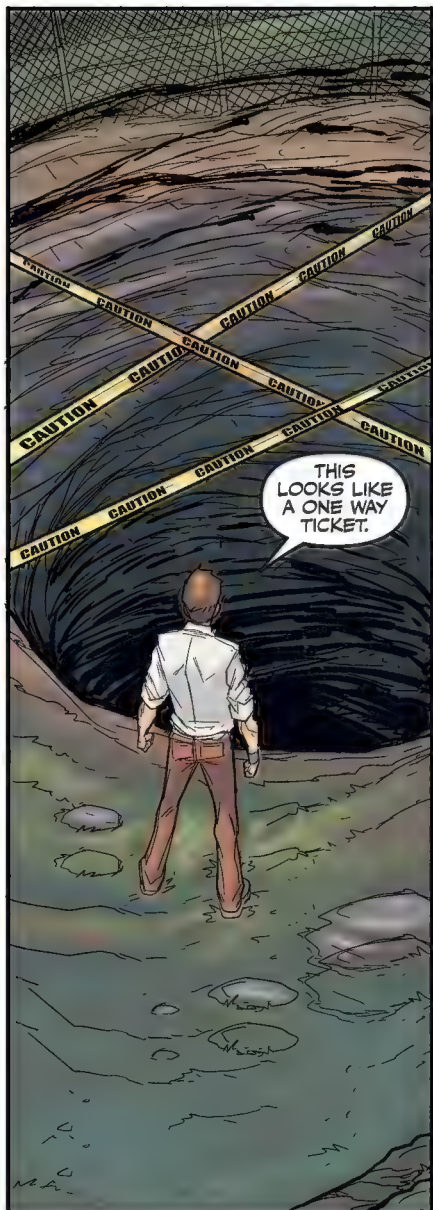
NOW, SYSTEMATIC OBSERVATION POINTS TO THE SINKHOLE AS THE INSTIGATING X-FACTOR. FIND A FIRE'S ORIGIN. INVESTIGATE ITS CAUSE AND YOU'LL FIND...THE FIRE STARTER.



SOME MONSTER HUNTER. DOESN'T HE KNOW I CAN FEEL WHEN HE'S NEAR?

AM I NUTS TO THINK WE COULD HAVE SOMETHING? HE DID BRING ME A CORSAGE. LAST DATE WHO FORGOT DIDN'T SEE SUNRISE. STILL...RUPERT GILES.

HE'S AN ODD GUY, WALKS BETWEEN WORLDS. STRADDLING. I'LL LET HIM DANGLE. PLAY HARD TO GET. STILL...ROUX, GILES.







YOU HOLD NO POWER HERE. GO NOW, *DEMON*, TO HELL, WHERE TIME HOLDS NO MERCY! AD INFURNUM.

AD INFURNUM?!



OH, JUST GO BACK TO HELL ALREADY.

FWAMM

NOOOOOOO!



RING ANY BELLS?

UH, VAGUELY. THEN YOU WERE A RED DRAGON WITH A TASTE FOR--

PEACHES.

THAT WAS YOU?

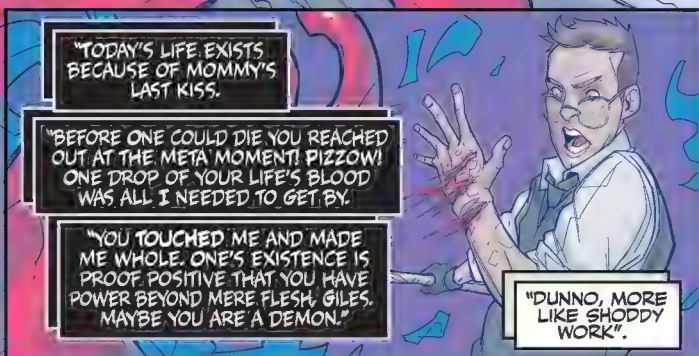
WAS. NOW ONE IS SEED. THE PEACHES ADDICTION INTERACT THE DOGS, A TASTY SIDE EFFECT...



FRRRRRT

PARDON MOL

C'EST BON. BUT I KILLED YOU-- NOT SORRY--YEARS AGO. YET, HERE YOU ARE TODAY?



"TODAY'S LIFE EXISTS BECAUSE OF MOMMY'S LAST KISS."

"BEFORE ONE COULD DIE YOU REACHED OUT AT THE META MOMENT! PIZZOW! ONE DROP OF YOUR LIFE'S BLOOD WAS ALL I NEEDED TO GET BY."

"YOU TOUCHED ME AND MADE ME WHOLE. ONE'S EXISTENCE IS PROOF POSITIVE THAT YOU HAVE POWER BEYOND MERE FLESH, GILES. MAYBE YOU ARE A DEMON."

"DUNNO, MORE LIKE SHODDY WORK."

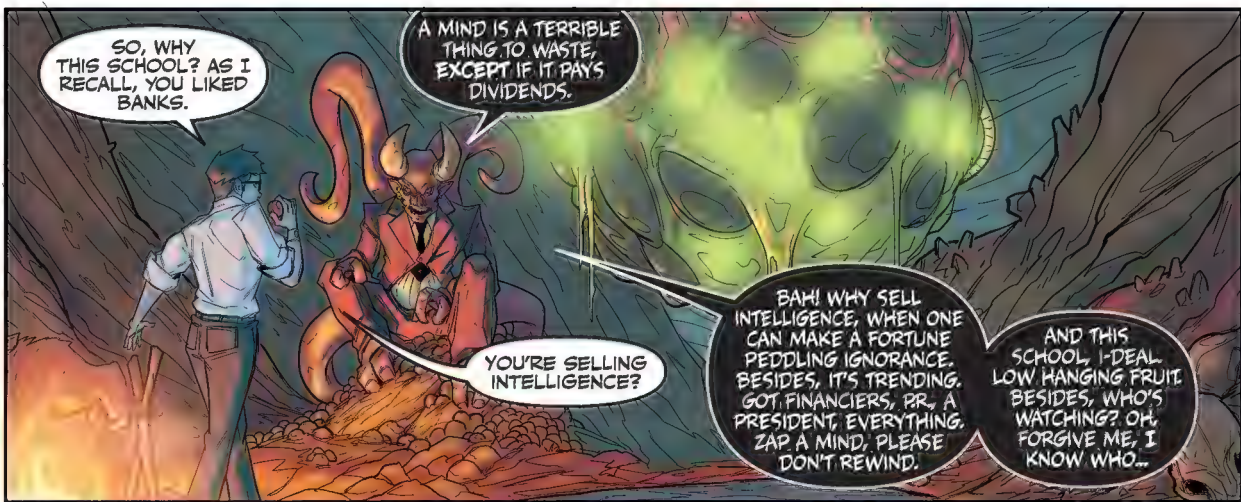


HOW CAN I IMITATE ME? WHO ELSE CAN ONE BE?

TSK-TSK, YOU DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE. COWARD. EVEN AFTER BEING RESURRECTED AND RECALLED, THE VOICES IN YOUR HEAD DEBATE YOUR FATE. THANK GOD ONE DID NOT INHERIT THAT TRAIT.

STILL A THIRD-PERSON WHORE, I SEE.

IT'S A LIVING.



SO, WHY THIS SCHOOL? AS I RECALL, YOU LIKED BANKS.

A MIND IS A TERRIBLE THING TO WASTE, EXCEPT IF IT PAYS DIVIDENDS.

YOU'RE SELLING INTELLIGENCE?

BAH! WHY SELL INTELLIGENCE, WHEN ONE CAN MAKE A FORTUNE PEDDLING IGNORANCE. BESIDES, IT'S TRENDING. GOT FINANCIERS, PR, A PRESIDENT. EVERYTHING. ZAP A MIND, PLEASE DON'T REWIND.

AND THIS SCHOOL, I DEAL LOW HANGING FRUIT. BESIDES, WHO'S WATCHING? OH, FORGIVE ME, I KNOW WHO...



SHE WATCHES.

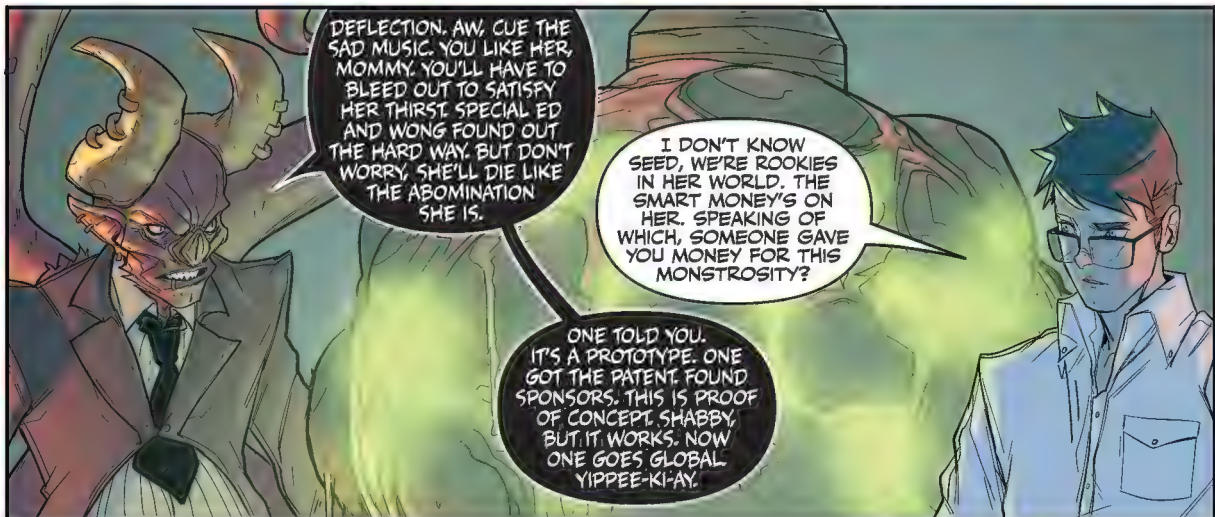
UMM. THE BLACK VAMP'S CUTE. OLD SCHOOL. VERY OLD INDEED. GOTTA REAL HUNGER FOR BLOOD. ASK TRUMAN.



CARE-FUL NOW HERO. SHE'S A SAVER. A REAL PACK RAT. AND WHAT ONE CAN'T SEE WILL HURT YOU--

SHAKKN

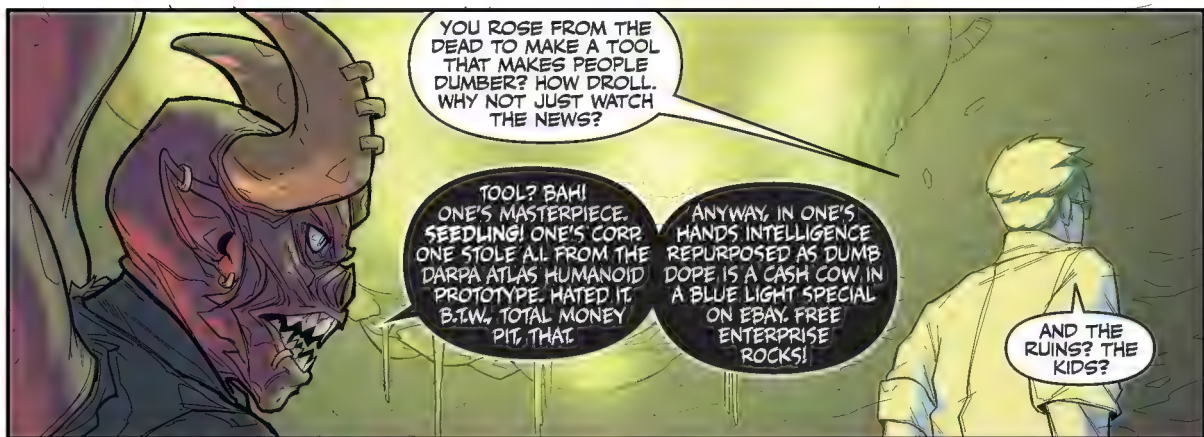
SEED, THIS FOUNDATION IS QUITE, UH, TIPPY. WHY NOT REBUILD--?



DEFLECTION. AW, CUE THE SAD MUSIC. YOU LIKE HER, MOMMY. YOU'LL HAVE TO BLEED OUT TO SATISFY HER THIRST SPECIAL ED AND WONG FOUND OUT THE HARD WAY. BUT DON'T WORRY, SHE'LL DIE LIKE THE ABOMINATION SHE IS.

I DON'T KNOW SEED, WE'RE ROOKIES IN HER WORLD. THE SMART MONEY'S ON HER. SPEAKING OF WHICH, SOMEONE GAVE YOU MONEY FOR THIS MONSTROSITY?

ONE TOLD YOU. IT'S A PROTOTYPE. ONE GOT THE PATENT. FOUND SPONSORS. THIS IS PROOF OF CONCEPT. SHABBY, BUT IT WORKS. NOW ONE GOES GLOBAL YIPPEE-KI-AY.



CUE MIXTAPE #8: "BLACK DOG" BY LED ZEPPELIN



WATCH IT, MAMA! I GREW UP WHILE YOU DOWNSIZED!

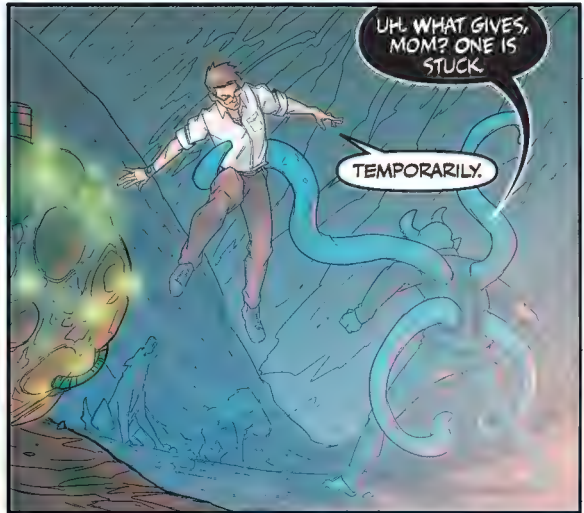
YEAH, BUT NOW I COME FULLY LOADED!



SUSPENSION!

TIME TO CHILL.

GOTTA SLOW THIS CIRCUS SHOW DOWN UNTIL I CAN FIND A WAY TO END THIS THING.



UH, WHAT GIVES, MOM? ONE IS STUCK.

TEMPORARILY.

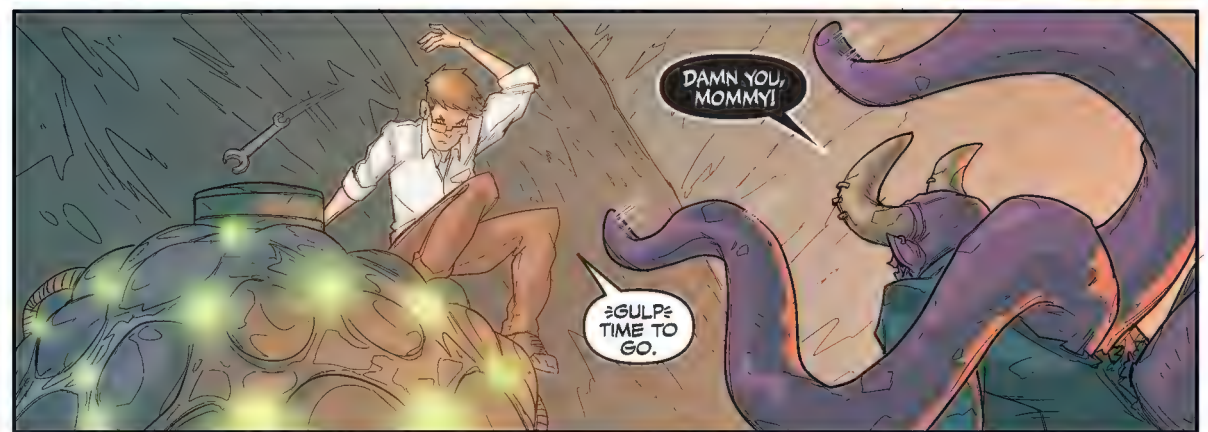


WORK FAST, BABY IS GRUMPY.

DON'T DO THAT!

WHAT, THROW A WRENCH IN YOUR PLAN?

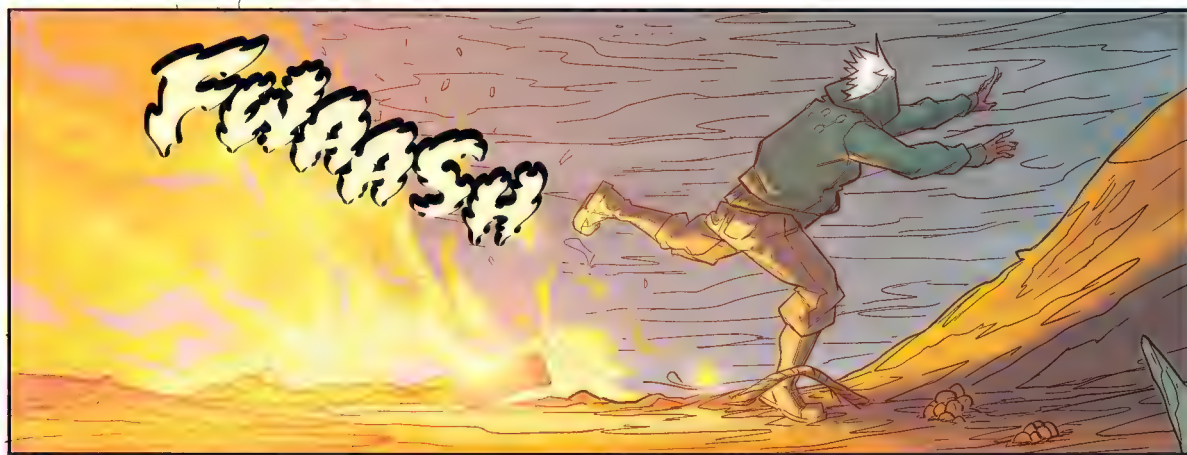
NO, IT'S THE ONLY ONE I HAVE!



DAMN YOU, MOMMY!

GULP: TIME TO GO.







YES,
INDEED WE
DO.

WOOF
WOOF

OH, ROUX,
THANK GOODNESS,
I GOT YOU.

YOU
GOT ME?

YOU'RE
SAFE WITH
ME.







THIS, IS AS UNCOMFORTABLE AS IT LOOKS.

I'M CLOSE.

ROUX...ONE QUESTION, WHO LET THE DOGS OUT?

WOOF
WOOF

WOOF
RUF



A collage of various faces, including a large close-up of a woman's face on the left, a man's face with glasses at the top right, a man in a turban in the center, and a man with glasses at the bottom right. The entire image has a purple tint.

GIRL BLUE
CHAPTER THREE

DAY 1816. REMY PLANTATION,
OWEN COUNTY,
LOUISIANA-UPRIVER.

HELL ON EARTH.

HOOOOWWWLLL

SHHH. YA'LL
MAKE IT HURT
WORSE. EASY
NOW. EASY...

"I WAS DEAD LONG
BEFORE THEY
KILLED ME..."

"...BUT THEY SURE
KILLED THE HELL
OUTTA THE REST OF
ME THAT NIGHT."

GIRL BLUE

PART THREE

YOU CAN'T BE TOLD

AS I LISTENED TO THE VAMPIRE ROUX, I
REALIZED I WAS HER CAPTIVE, HER AUDIENCE,
HER INTERROGATOR, AND HER BOYFRIEND.

MODERN DATING
IS THORNY. NEXT
TIME I'LL JUST
SWIPE RIGHT.

CHIRP

CHIRP
CHIRP

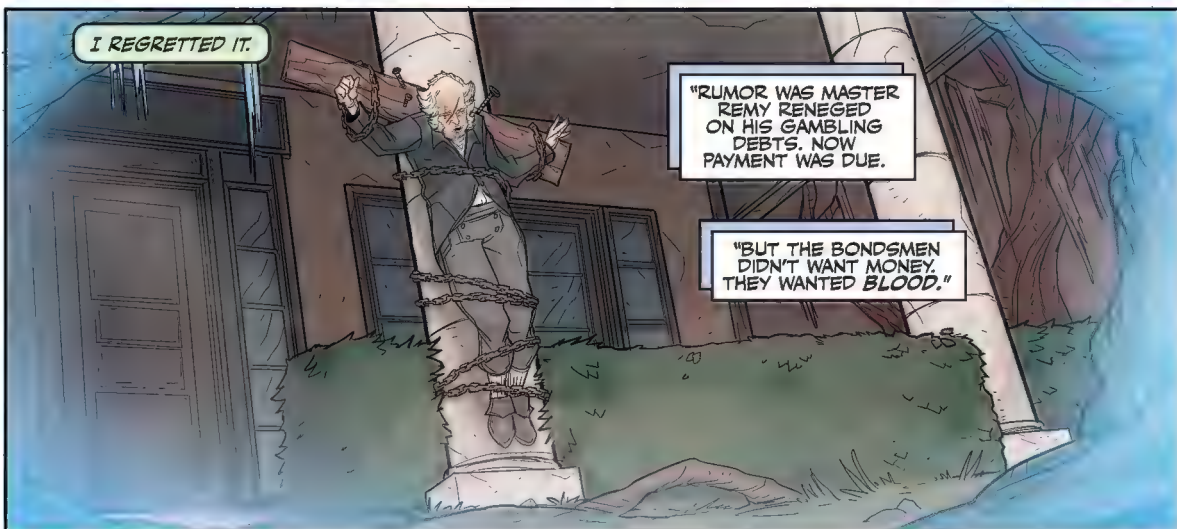
"SLAVERY BINDS FLESH AND
CONCEALS ITS WOUNDS. THE
OUTSIDE MAY SURVIVE, BUT
THE SOUL, IF IT HAS GOOD
SENSE, WILL RUN FOR ITS LIFE.

"THAT DAY MIDNIGHT
CAME EARLY. WE
NEVER STOOD
A CHANCE."

AHHHH!



I CREATED A VISION SPELL--
A WINDOW, IF YOU WILL--AND
ATTACHED IT TO ROUX'S WORDS
SO I COULD SEE HER STORY.



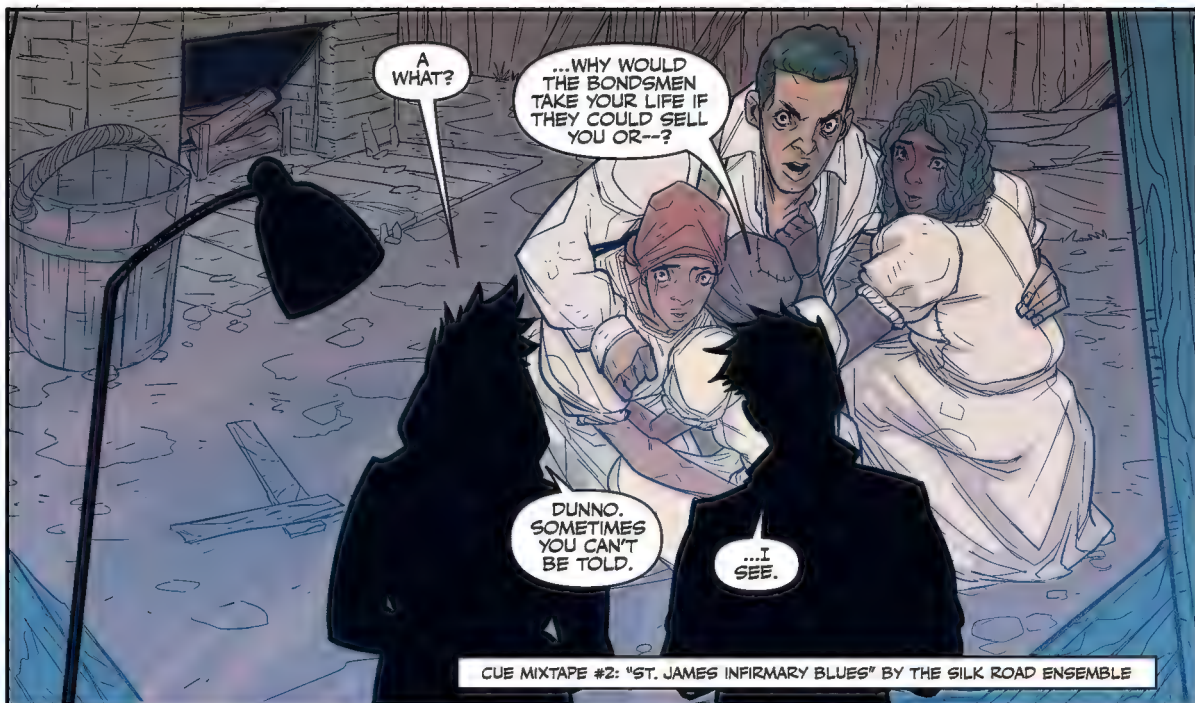
I REGRETTED IT.

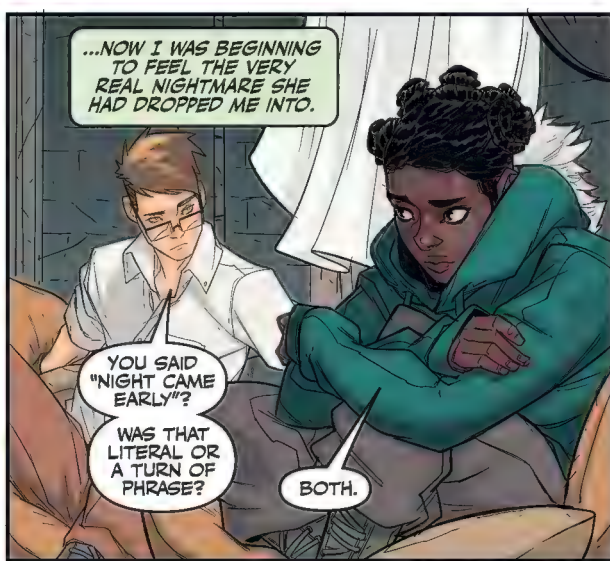
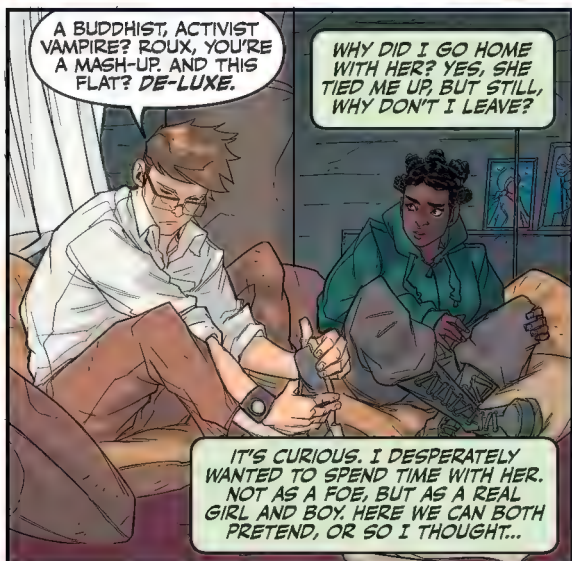
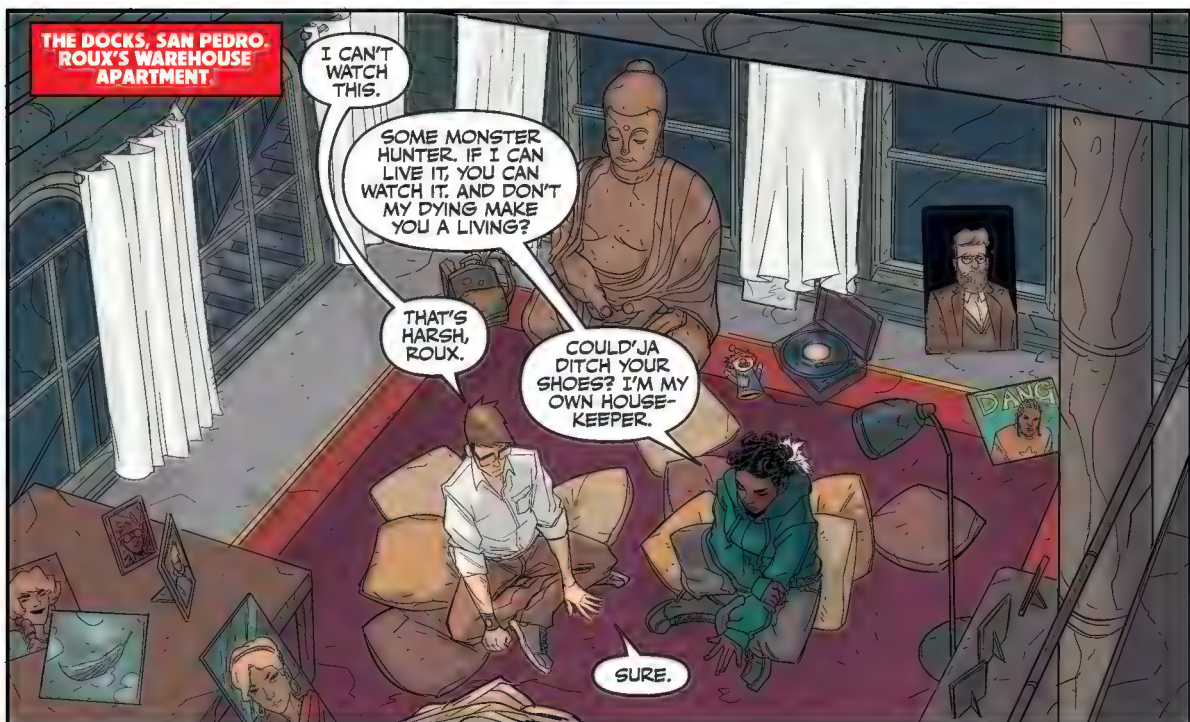
"RUMOR WAS MASTER
REMY RENEGED
ON HIS GAMBLING
DEBTS. NOW
PAYMENT WAS DUE.

"BUT THE BONDSMEN
DIDN'T WANT MONEY.
THEY WANTED BLOOD."



"BUT YOU WERE
A SLAVE."







SHH...HEAR THAT?

LOOK UP!



YOU ARE DOOMED.



WHAT THE HELL?



I DID NOT DRAIN THE WRETCHED TWINS.

THEY ARE A GIFT TO YOU. OR A NIGHTMARE, SHACKLED TO YOUR CONSCIENCE. FOR THEIR SINS, AND MY AMUSEMENT, THEY WILL SHADOW YOU. BOUND.

MY STAR, MY TAARA, YOU ARE WEAK IN LIFE.

UHH...



AT THE EDGE OF THE
BOGUE FALAYA RIVER.

DON'T
COME OUT UNTIL
YOU CAN SEE
TOMORROW.

I CAN'T
BREATHE.

"HE BURIED
ME. ALIVE.

"NO...
I WASN'T
ALIVE."

I CAN'T
BREATHE.
GASP

I DON'T
BREATHE.

"I STAYED IN THAT HOLE
FOR TWELVE YEARS
WITH NOTHING BUT MUD,
BUGS, AND SLUDGE TO
FEED ME. RUMINATING.

"A BOTTOM
FEEDER, IN LIFE
AND DEATH.

"BUT NOW I HAD
THE POWER OF LIFE
IN DEATH. I JUST
DIDN'T KNOW IT.

"IT TOOK A LIFETIME
FOR ME TO WORK UP
THE NERVE TO LIVE.

"ONCE I GOT UP, I
GOT OUT AND NEVER
LOOKED BACK."

1828. C. CULPEPPER PLANTATION,
GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA.

"BUT I WASN'T
ME ANYMORE."

THAT GIRL
NEVER GETS SICK!
DOESN'T EAT FOOD,
WORKS IN THE
MOONLIGHT...

DEMON.

"I WAS IN THAT
UNCANNY VALLEY.
HUMAN-LIKE.
WHATEVER I
WAS, I WASN'T
WELCOME."

MONSTER!

DEMON!

"TRUTH WAS, I
WAS STILL LIVING
LIKE A SLAVE,
BUT I WAS FREE."

1862. FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA.
THE BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG.

"THE WORLD WAS FULL
OF STRANGER THINGS.
RED SKIES, BLOODY
BATTLES, AND CRUEL
MEN SPOILED ROTTEN."

"AND THEY CALL
ME A MONSTER."

"I ESCAPED LIFE, BUT
NOT EVEN LIVING
DEATH COULD FREE ME
FROM MY BONDAGE,
SO I WENT NORTH."

1872. ALLEGHENY RIVER PORT,
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA.

"UP THERE THE WEATHER
WAS COLDER, BUT IT WAS
WARMER THAN THEIR
HEARTS. LIKE I SAID,
THERE AIN'T MANY PLACES
FOR A BLACK GIRL TO BE.

"IF I FELL OFF
THE EDGE OF THE
EARTH I'D STILL
BE IN THE WAY.

"SO I FOUGHT
BACK AND I WON.

"BUT I SCARED THE
WOMEN. I SCARED
MYSELF.

"I WAS OUTSIDE
THE OUTSIDERS."

1892. THE ALLEGHENY RIVER.

"SO I WENT BACK
DOWN, UNDERGROUND,
IN MY COCOON...AND
RUMINATED.

"IF I COULDN'T
CHANGE MY
FACE, THE WORLD
WOULD HAVE TO
CHANGE ITS MIND.

"STILL, THE FUTURE
TOOK FOREVER."

"ROUX, DO YOU BELIEVE
IN REINCARNATION?"



I'M PROOF
A VERSION
EXISTS.

WHAT IF I
TOLD YOU I'M
NOT A TEENAGE
BOY. THAT THROUGH
MAGIC I DIED, WAS
RESURRECTED, THEN
RECREATED IN MY
TEENAGE BODY. MY
MIND IS THREE AND
A HALF DECADES
OLDER THAN
ME.

NO
WONDER
YOU ALWAYS
LOOK SO
CONFUSED,
ROOKIE.

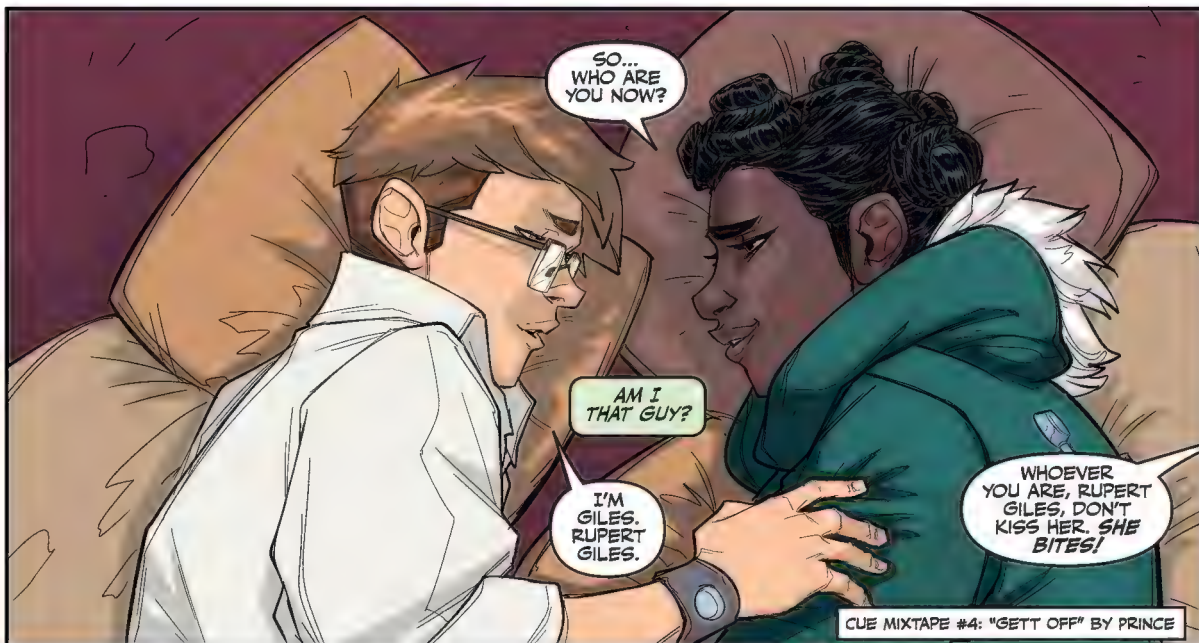
OH, YEAH?
WELL, I JUST
REALIZED I'M
TOO *YOUNG*
FOR YOU,
MISSY.

AT TWO
HUNDRED YEARS
PLUS YOU'RE AN
HEIRLOOM TOMATO
COMPARED TO MY
FIFTY-YEAR-OLD
TENDERFOOT.



YOU MUST BE
EXHAUSTED.

CAREFUL,
YOUNGBLOOD.
I'M GETTING
HUNGRY.



SO...
WHO ARE
YOU NOW?

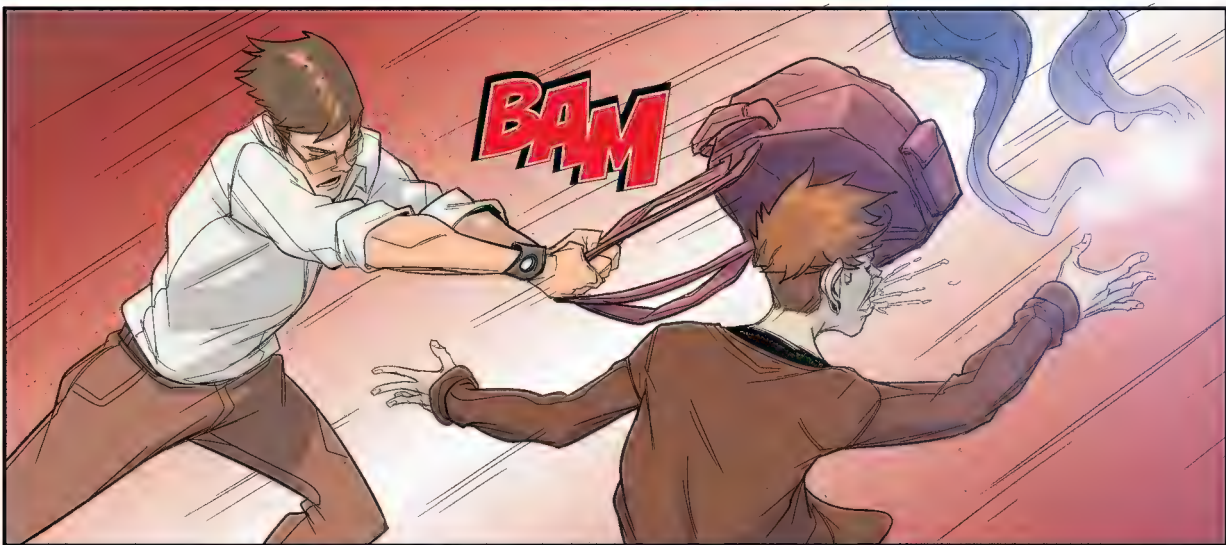
AM I
THAT GUY?

I'M
GILES.
RUPERT
GILES.

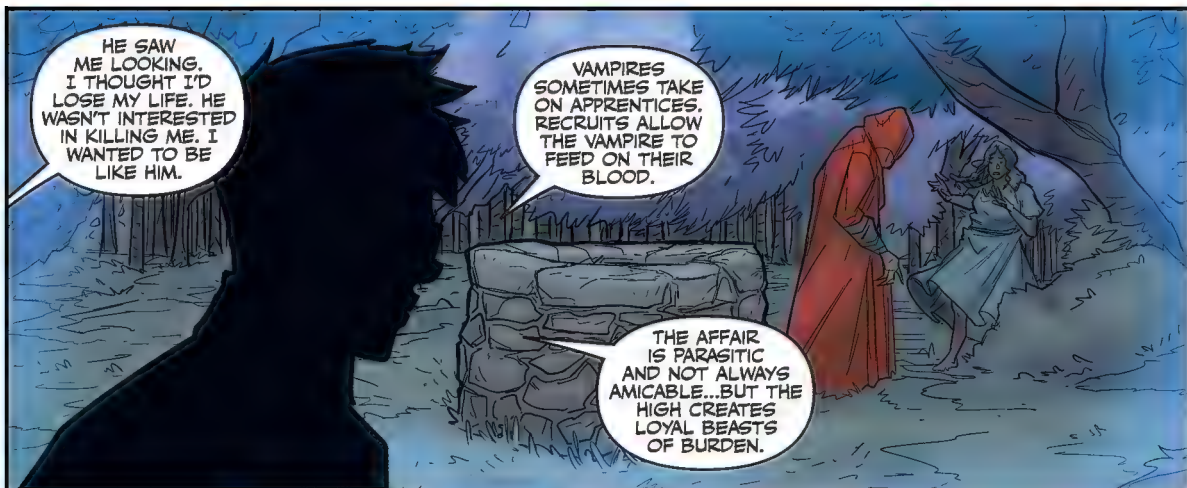
WHOEVER
YOU ARE, RUPERT
GILES, DON'T
KISS HER. *SHE
BITES!*

CUE MIXTAPE #4: "GETT OFF" BY PRINCE









HE SAW ME LOOKING. I THOUGHT I'D LOSE MY LIFE. HE WASN'T INTERESTED IN KILLING ME. I WANTED TO BE LIKE HIM.

VAMPIRES SOMETIMES TAKE ON APPRENTICES. RECRUITS ALLOW THE VAMPIRE TO FEED ON THEIR BLOOD.

THE AFFAIR IS PARASITIC AND NOT ALWAYS AMICABLE...BUT THE HIGH CREATES LOYAL BEASTS OF BURDEN.



I DON'T SCARE YOU? GOOD. DON'T EVER FEAR DEATH. IT'S LIFE THAT HURTS.

BUT DON'T ENVY DEATH. IT'S ITS OWN MISERY. YES, TAARA, LET ME HAVE A TASTE.



MY TAARA, MY STAR, COME WITH ME.

SHIZZLE

"MMNN. IT HURT BUT I COULDN'T FEEL IT. I WAS SOMEWHERE ELSE. CAUGHT UP, WITH HIM, DANGLING BETWEEN WORLDS."

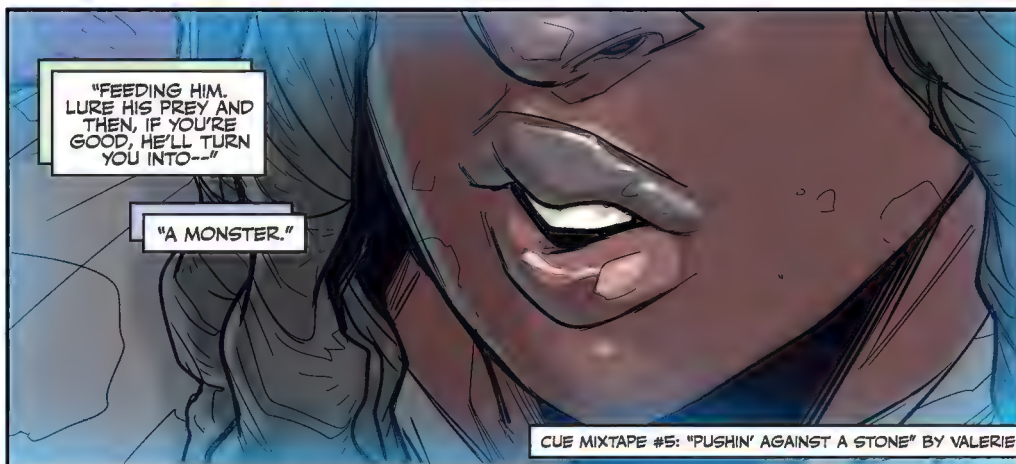


HIS STALKING HORSE, HIS FOOD. ROUX, HE WAS A MURDERER--

HE KILLED PEOPLE WHO NEEDED KILLING. DOWN SOUTH HE COULD'VE GONE ON TILL KINGDOM COME.

YOU BECAME A SLAVE...

AGAIN.



"FEEDING HIM. LURE HIS PREY AND THEN, IF YOU'RE GOOD, HE'LL TURN YOU INTO--"

"A MONSTER."



THE MYSTERIOUS DEATHS AND DEBT LED TO THE SLAUGHTER OF YOUR FAMILY AND EVERYONE ON THE PLANTATION. THE VAMPIRE BALDWIN CREATED THAT CHAOS.

YEAH. PO' MASTER REMY. THEY BLAMED HIM, BUT HE REAPED HIS SOW. EVERYONE ELSE, WELL...I HAVE **REGRETS**.

THAT NIGHT I BECAME MORE THAN A VAMPIRE. BALDWIN RESCUED ME AND I CROSSED OVER. HE **RE-CREATED** THE SHEFFIELD TWINS AND BOUND THEM TO ME. I HATE THEM. THEN HE VANISHED, LEAVING ME WITH **SHADOWS**. ALONE.

YEAH, I WAS DEAD ALREADY. TWICE OVER, IN SLAVERY AND IN IMMORTALITY.



I HURT SO, WHEN I GLOW.

G-GLOWING... THE NAMES...ARE VICTIMS?

THE ONES I REGRET.

YOU ARE MORE THAN A VAMPIRE.

BUT WHO ARE YOU, ROUX? WHAT ARE YOU?

I AM NO MONSTER.



ROUX, THERE YOU ARE...

FOLLOW ME.

LOOK UP, RUPERT GILES.

CUE MIXTAPE #6: "SHE BAD BAD" BY EVE



MY
GOD.

MY
LIFE.
PAINTED, WHILE
I WAITED ANOTHER
CENTURY FOR THE
WORLD TO CHANGE.
I EVEN MADE A
FRIEND, EBBA.

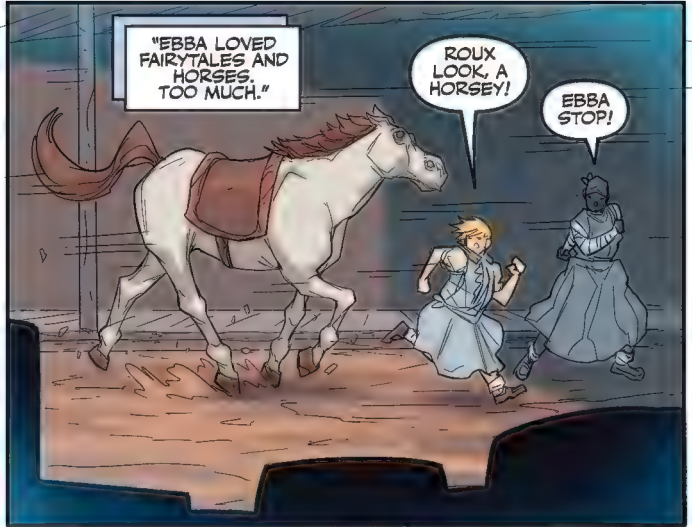
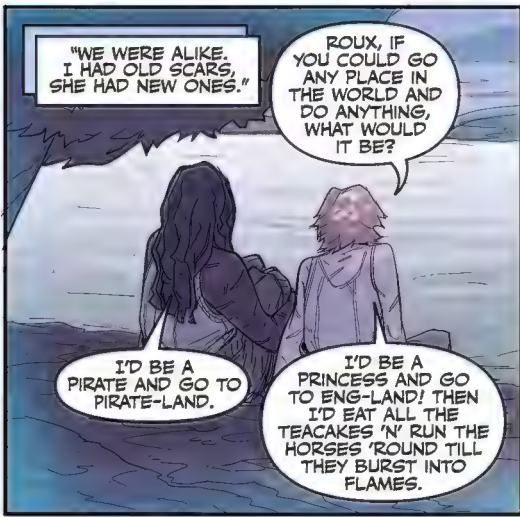
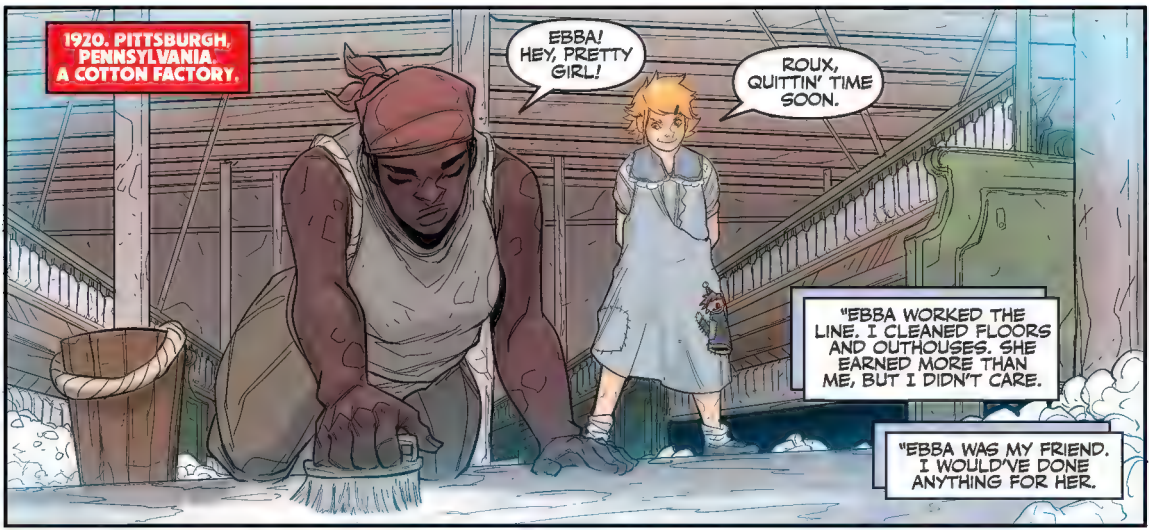
ROUX?

SHE'S
CALLING
ME.

AND YOU'LL
GO TO HER, BUT
BEFORE YOU GO, WHY
DID YOU BRING ME
HERE? IF YOU WANT
FORGIVENESS--

FORGIVENESS
FROM YOU,
MONSTER
KILLER?

NO.
FORGIVENESS FROM
YOURSELF. SO YOU CAN
REST. I KNOW YOU'RE
EXHAUSTED.







HER HAIR TURNED AN ICY POWDER-BLUE BEFORE MY EYES. CROWNED. SHE WAS BEYOND ME.

ROUX. COME BACK TO ME.

MONSTERS? MEN? HOW DO YOU TELL THE DIFFERENCE?

WITHOUT BORDERS, THE DIFFERENCE TELLS ON YOU.

ARE YOU SURE?

YOU KILL MONSTERS WHO HUNT MEN, BUT WHAT IF YOU'RE WRONG, HERO? WHAT IF MEN ARE THE SCOURGE? JOIN US. SAVE THE HUNTED.

SAVE YOURSELF. SAVE THE HAUNTED.

ROUX, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SPECIAL ED TEACHER, MR. CROWE? AND WHAT ABOUT MS. WONG--DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HER TOO?

I WATCH BLUE. NOTHING ELSE MATTERS.

TO YOU, BUT MY JOB IS TO HUNT...*FIGHT* AGAINST DEMONS, VAMPIRES, AND THE FORCES OF DARKNESS--AND THERE IS DARKNESS AT THIS SCHOOL.

BUT...YOU MAY HAVE A SOUL.

HMN...A BOY, *MAN*, WHO MURDERS FOR A LIVING QUESTIONS MY SOUL AND SPEAKS OF DARKNESS.

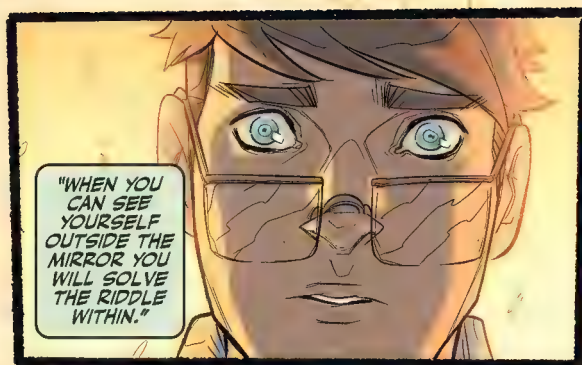
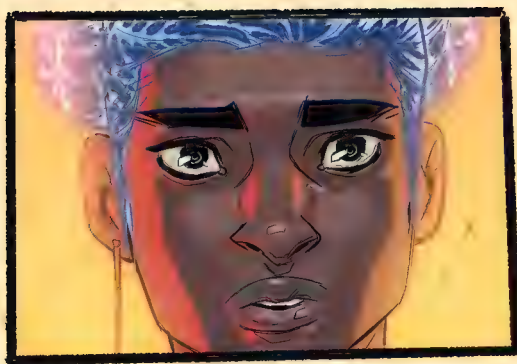
OKAY, RUPERT GILES, JUDGE AND JURY ME. DO YOU THINK I HAVE A SOUL?

I KNOW TWO VAMPIRES WITH SOULS AND THEY SUFFERED FOR THEM. WE ALL SUFFERED FOR THEM.

VERDICT?

VAMPIRES ARE THE UNDEAD. THEY HAVE NO SOULS.

WATCHER, LOOK AT ME. DO I HAVE ONE?



"WHEN YOU
CAN SEE
YOURSELF
OUTSIDE THE
MIRROR YOU
WILL SOLVE
THE RIDDLE
WITHIN."





WOOF WOOF



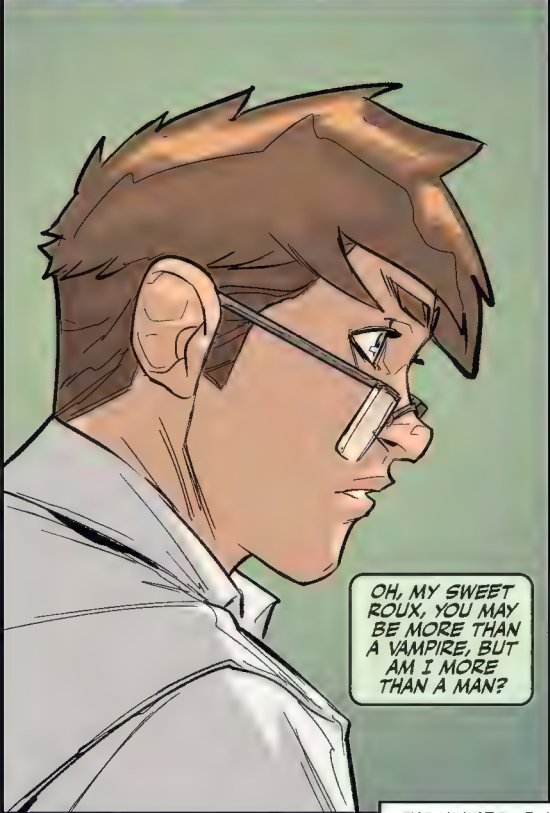
"SHE'S A SAVER."

WOOF WOOF

RUF



"A REAL PACK RAT AND WHAT ONE CAN'T SEE WILL HURT YOU..."



OH, MY SWEET ROUX, YOU MAY BE MORE THAN A VAMPIRE, BUT AM I MORE THAN A MAN?



ROUX, WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GREW UP?

HAPPY... YOU?

HAPPY-IER.

DID... SUNNYDALE... MAKE YOU HAPPIER? WHAT WAS... THAT LIKE?

UHM, JUST A TYPICAL CITY FULL OF MONSTERS... AND MEN.

CHIRP CHIRP CHIRP





GIRL BLUE
CHAPTER FOUR

GIRL BLUE

PART FOUR

"CROSS
MY HEART,
HOPE TO
DIE."

HOW DID A SCHOOLYARD
PROMISE BETWEEN A
GIRL AND BOY BECOME
A DEATH OATH BETWEEN
A MONSTER AND A MAN?

SPEAKING OF
MONSTERS...

CUE MIXTAPE #1: "GLASGOW LOVE THEME" BY CLAIRE JONES

...EVEN VAMPIRES
NEED REST, AND ROUX
BURNS THE CANDLE
AT BOTH ENDS.

IT WAS EASY
TO SLIP AWAY.

I DON'T HATE HIGH
SCHOOL. ACTUALLY,
I QUITE ENJOY IT.

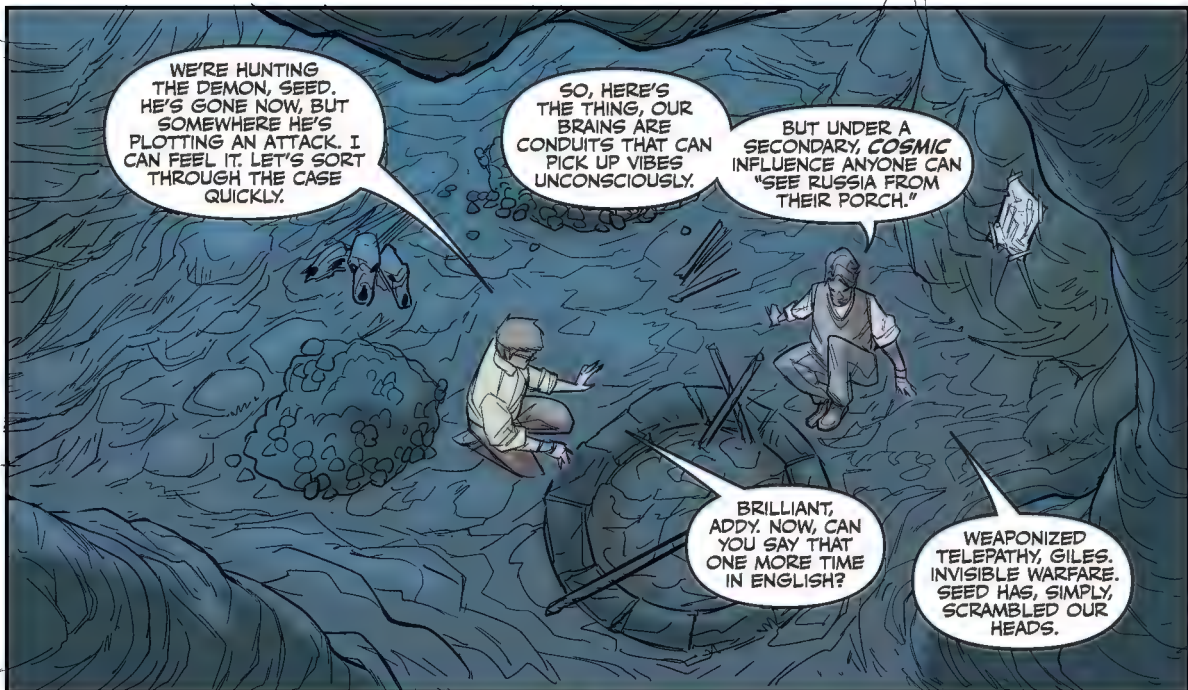
YOU'RE STILL
PRACTICING,
MAKING MISTAKES,
BUT ONE CAN
IMAGINE THE
POSSIBILITIES.

STILL IT IS A WORLD
WITHOUT END,
BUT AT LEAST THE
PEOPLE IN HERE
WILL EVENTUALLY
MEET THEIRS. HOW
WILL ROUX AND
I MEET OURS?

VEGA'S MIRROR...I'VE LOOKED INTO
MIRRORS MY WHOLE LIFE, BUT FAILED
TO REALLY SEE MYSELF. HOW DID I
MAKE THE VISIBLE INVISIBLE? AND
WHO, OR RATHER, WHAT MUST I BE
NOW TO BE WHO I REALLY AM?

ROUX...I FEEL HER
NOW, WATCHING ME.
SLEEP, GIRL, WHILE
I RUMINATE.

"SO, MATE, WE'RE
DOWN IN THIS
FILTHY SINKHOLE
BECAUSE WHY?"



WE'RE HUNTING THE DEMON, SEED. HE'S GONE NOW, BUT SOMEWHERE HE'S PLOTTING AN ATTACK. I CAN FEEL IT. LET'S SORT THROUGH THE CASE QUICKLY.

SO, HERE'S THE THING, OUR BRAINS ARE CONDUITS THAT CAN PICK UP VIBES UNCONSCIOUSLY.

BUT UNDER A SECONDARY, *COSMIC* INFLUENCE ANYONE CAN "SEE RUSSIA FROM THEIR PORCH."

BRILLIANT, ADDY. NOW, CAN YOU SAY THAT ONE MORE TIME IN ENGLISH?

WEAPONIZED TELEPATHY, GILES. INVISIBLE WARFARE. SEED HAS, SIMPLY, SCRAMBLED OUR HEADS.



RIGHT. BY BROADCASTING HIS INVISIBLE LINK/ DEMONCRAFT, HE'S DISRUPTED OUR DELICATE NEURAL SYSTEMS, BLOCKING THE ABILITY TO THINK.

BINGO! DISPERSE THE BRAIN DRAIN'S STICKY ALGORITHM INTO THE ATMOSPHERE, WHERE IT QUICKLY FINDS *HOSTS*--

HIGH SCHOOL, FERTILE GROUND--

THE YOUNGER THE BETTER.

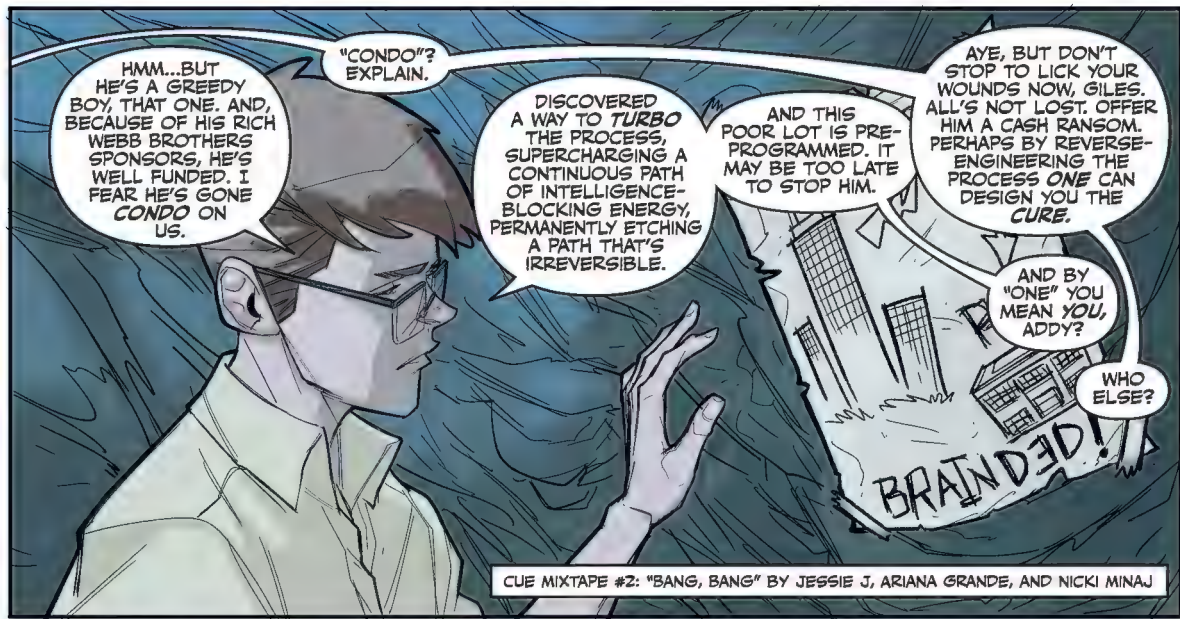


MOST PREFERABLY A SCHOOL LOST IN CHAOS, WHERE FEW SEE OR CARE.

PAINLESS, POWERLESS--

CRACKIN'.

MINDLESS.



HMM...BUT HE'S A GREEDY BOY, THAT ONE. AND, BECAUSE OF HIS RICH WEBB BROTHERS SPONSORS, HE'S WELL FUNDED. I FEAR HE'S GONE CONDO ON US.

"CONDO"? EXPLAIN.

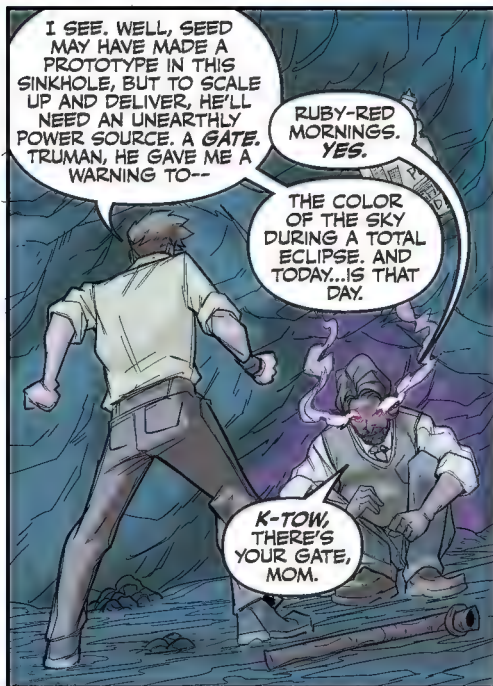
DISCOVERED A WAY TO *TURBO* THE PROCESS, SUPERCHARGING A CONTINUOUS PATH OF INTELLIGENCE-BLOCKING ENERGY, PERMANENTLY ETCHING A PATH THAT'S IRREVERSIBLE.

AND THIS POOR LOT IS PRE-PROGRAMMED. IT MAY BE TOO LATE TO STOP HIM.

AYE, BUT DON'T STOP TO LICK YOUR WOUNDS NOW, GILES. ALL'S NOT LOST. OFFER HIM A CASH RANSOM. PERHAPS BY REVERSE-ENGINEERING THE PROCESS *ONE* CAN DESIGN YOU THE CURE.

AND BY "ONE" YOU MEAN YOU, ADDY?

WHO ELSE?



I SEE. WELL, SEED MAY HAVE MADE A PROTOTYPE IN THIS SINKHOLE, BUT TO SCALE UP AND DELIVER, HE'LL NEED AN UNEARTHLY POWER SOURCE. A GATE. TRUMAN, HE GAVE ME A WARNING TO--

RUBY-RED MORNINGS. YES.

THE COLOR OF THE SKY DURING A TOTAL ECLIPSE. AND TODAY...IS THAT DAY.

K-TOW, THERE'S YOUR GATE, MOM.



MOM? ADDY...?

ONE CAN USE THAT CELESTIAL PHENOMENON TO DIRECT ITS POWERS TO A MOLECULAR GENERATOR. AND SINCE ONE'S SPENT MONTHS PRIMING THE PUMP, THE FRUIT IS RIPE.

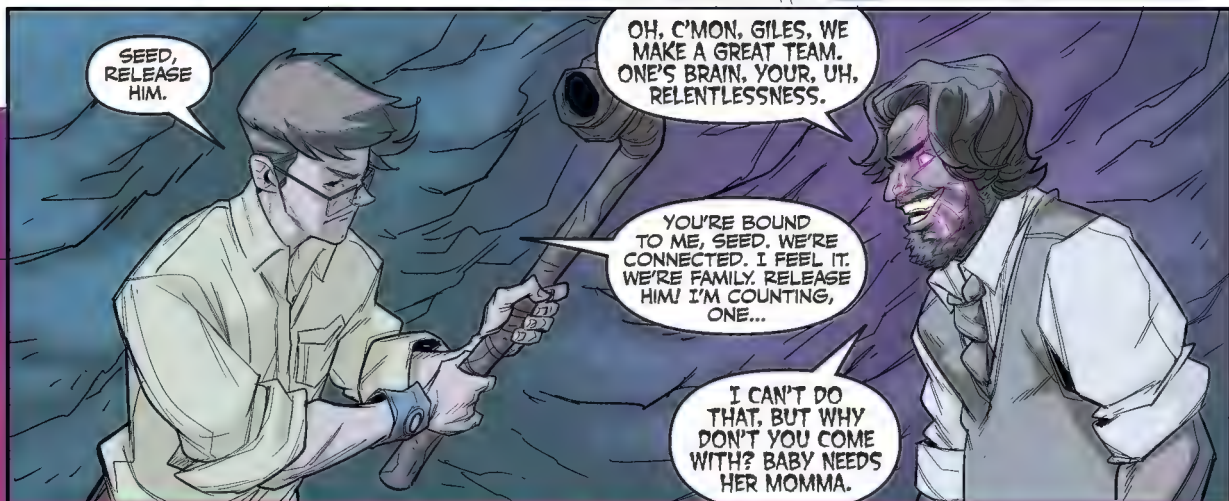


BOOM, EVERYONE'S LOST THEIR MIND. PERMANENTLY. HUUZZAH! ONE IS VERY CLEVER.

YES, ONE IS. ADDISON, MATE, YOU'VE BEEN COMPROMISED.

MOTHER? GILES?

SHUT UP, ADDY. GO BYE-BYE NOW. SEED'S DRIVING.



SEED, RELEASE HIM.

OH, C'MON, GILES, WE MAKE A GREAT TEAM. ONE'S BRAIN. YOUR, UH, RELENTLESSNESS.

YOU'RE BOUND TO ME, SEED. WE'RE CONNECTED. I FEEL IT. WE'RE FAMILY. RELEASE HIM! I'M COUNTING, ONE...

I CAN'T DO THAT, BUT WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH? BABY NEEDS HER MOMMA.



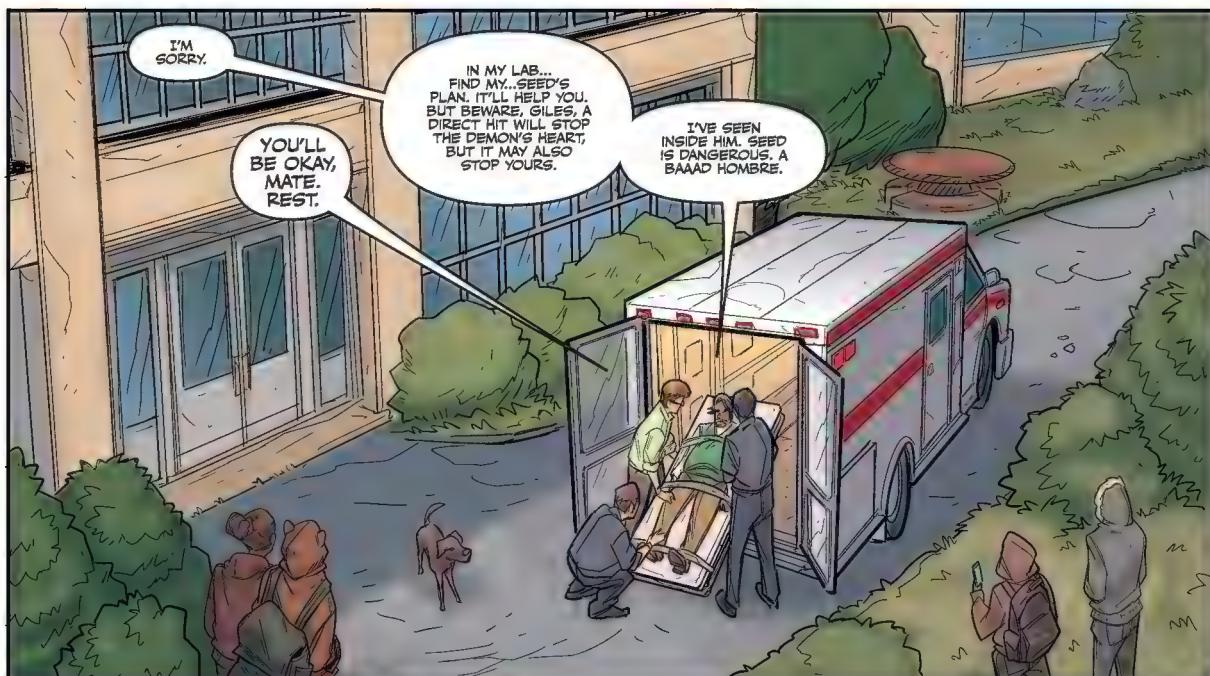
TIME'S UP. SORRY, ADDY, THIS IS GONNA HURT. A LOT!

ELECTRICAEE!

WHA?!



REMEMBER NOVEMBER. SEE YOU IN HELL, MOTHER!



I'M
SORRY.

YOU'LL
BE OKAY,
MATE.
REST.

IN MY LAB...
FIND MY...SEED'S
PLAN. IT'LL HELP YOU.
BUT BEWARE, GILES, A
DIRECT HIT WILL STOP
THE DEMON'S HEART,
BUT IT MAY ALSO
STOP YOURS.

I'VE SEEN
INSIDE HIM. SEED
IS DANGEROUS. A
BAAAD HOMBRE.



I'VE
BATTLED HIM
BEFORE.

AND LOST.
HE MUST'NT SURVIVE
AGAIN. LOOK FOR HIM
IN A HIGH PLACE.
SOMEWHERE
CLOSE...A...A...



A TOWER.
THE ST. THOMAS
BRIDGE.

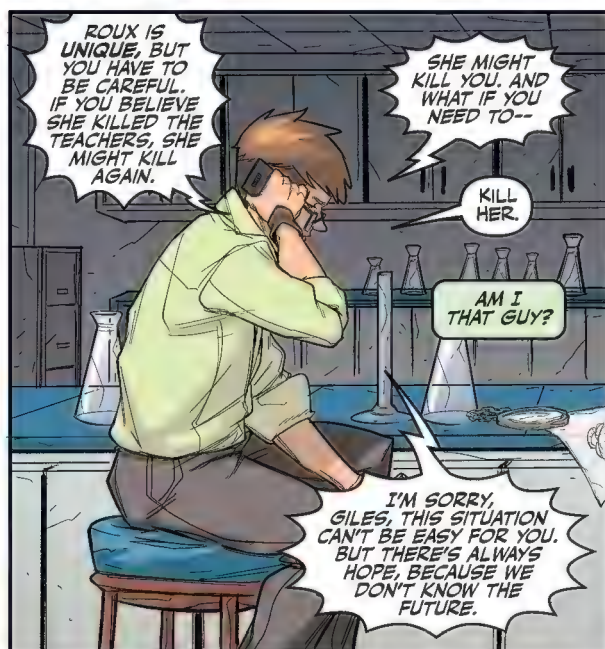


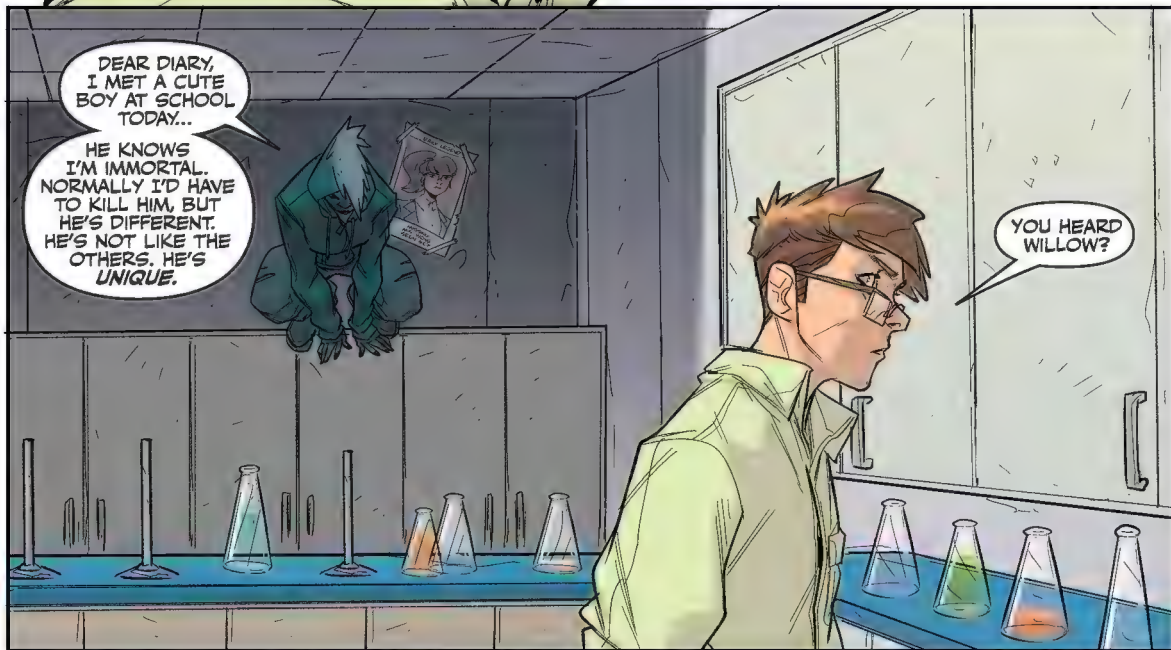
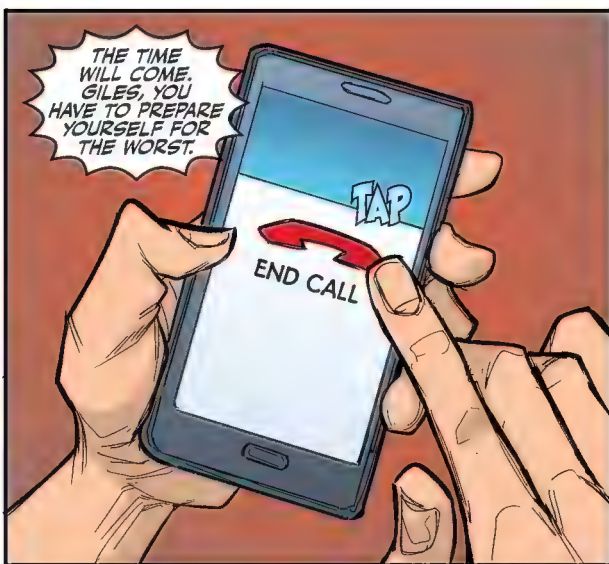
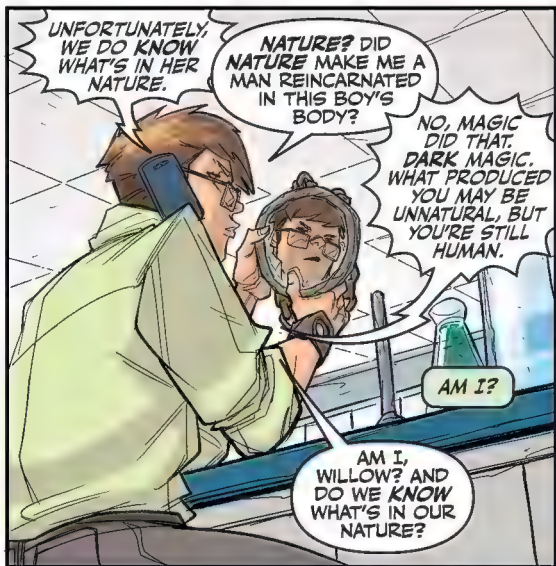
SEED, I'M
COMING FOR
YOU, SON! I'M
COMING FOR
YOOOU!

AROOOOOO

WHOA, VERY
KURT RUSSELL,
TOMBSTONE. FAR
OUT, MAN!

CUE MIXTAPE #3: "WE MUST LOVE EACH OTHER" BY DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



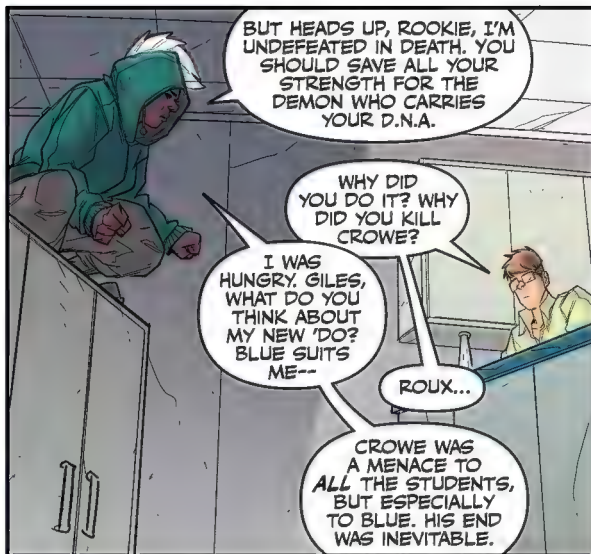




I HEARD YOU, ECLIPSE; KILL DEMON; KILL ROUX...

YOU THINK I SHOULD?

KILL ME? I'M DEAD ALREADY. NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, I CAN'T COME OUT OF THIS ALIVE.



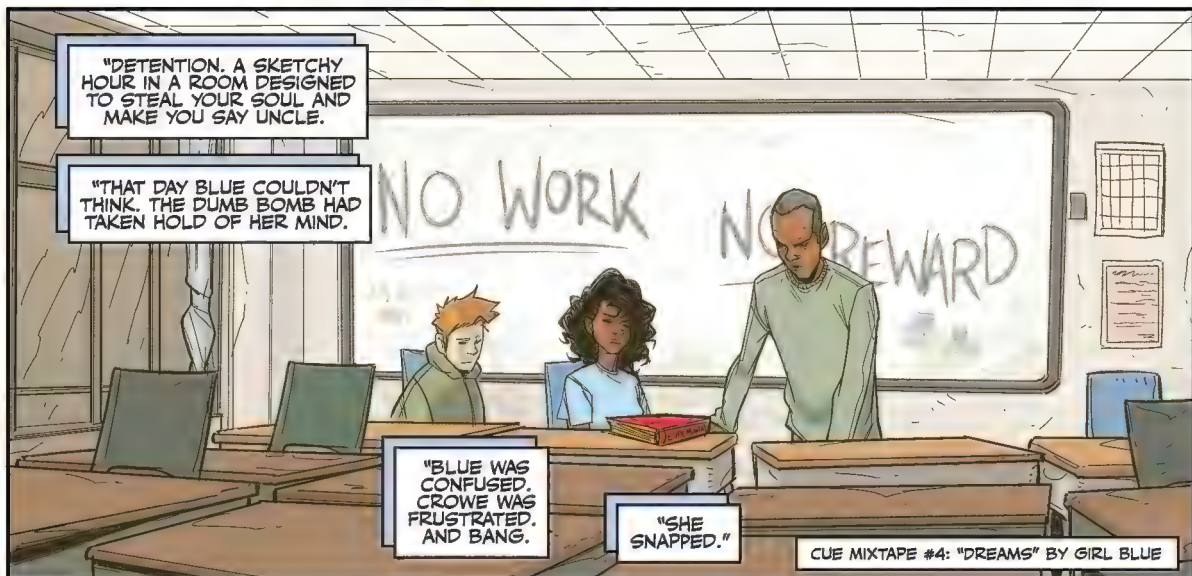
BUT HEADS UP, ROOKIE, I'M UNDEFEATED IN DEATH. YOU SHOULD SAVE ALL YOUR STRENGTH FOR THE DEMON WHO CARRIES YOUR D.N.A.

WHY DID YOU DO IT? WHY DID YOU KILL CROWE?

I WAS HUNGRY, GILES, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT MY NEW 'DO? BLUE SUITS ME--

ROUX...

CROWE WAS A MENACE TO ALL THE STUDENTS, BUT ESPECIALLY TO BLUE. HIS END WAS INEVITABLE.



"DETENTION. A SKETCHY HOUR IN A ROOM DESIGNED TO STEAL YOUR SOUL AND MAKE YOU SAY UNCLE.

"THAT DAY BLUE COULDN'T THINK. THE DUMB BOMB HAD TAKEN HOLD OF HER MIND.

"BLUE WAS CONFUSED. CROWE WAS FRUSTRATED. AND BANG.

"SHE SNAPPED."

CUE MIXTAPE #4: "DREAMS" BY GIRL BLUE



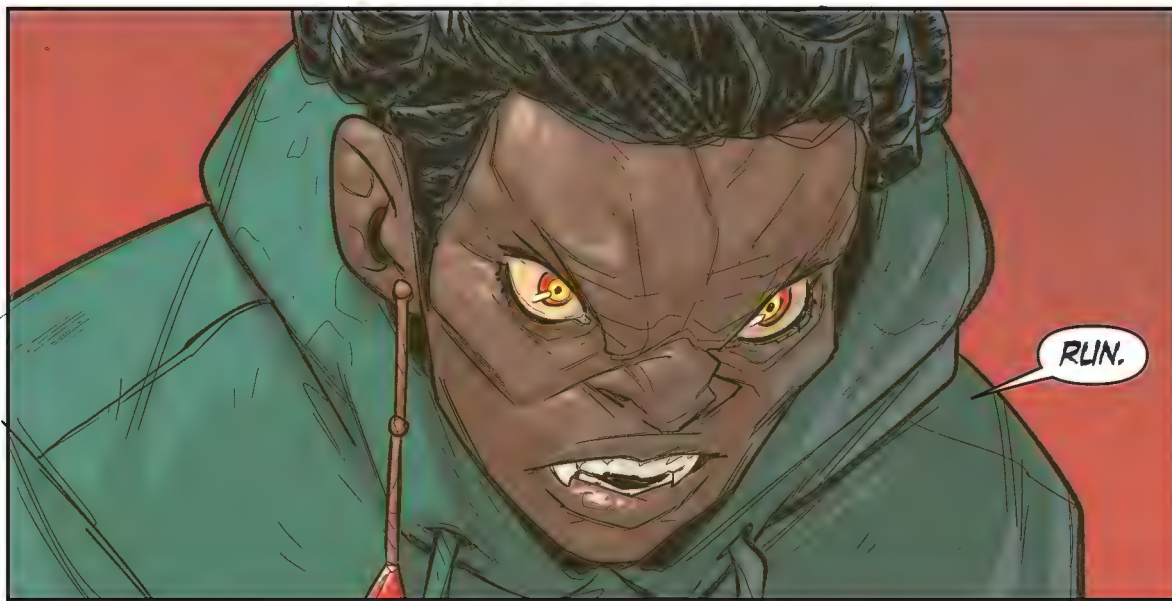
"SHE HIT CROWE WITH THAT BIG OL' BOOK.

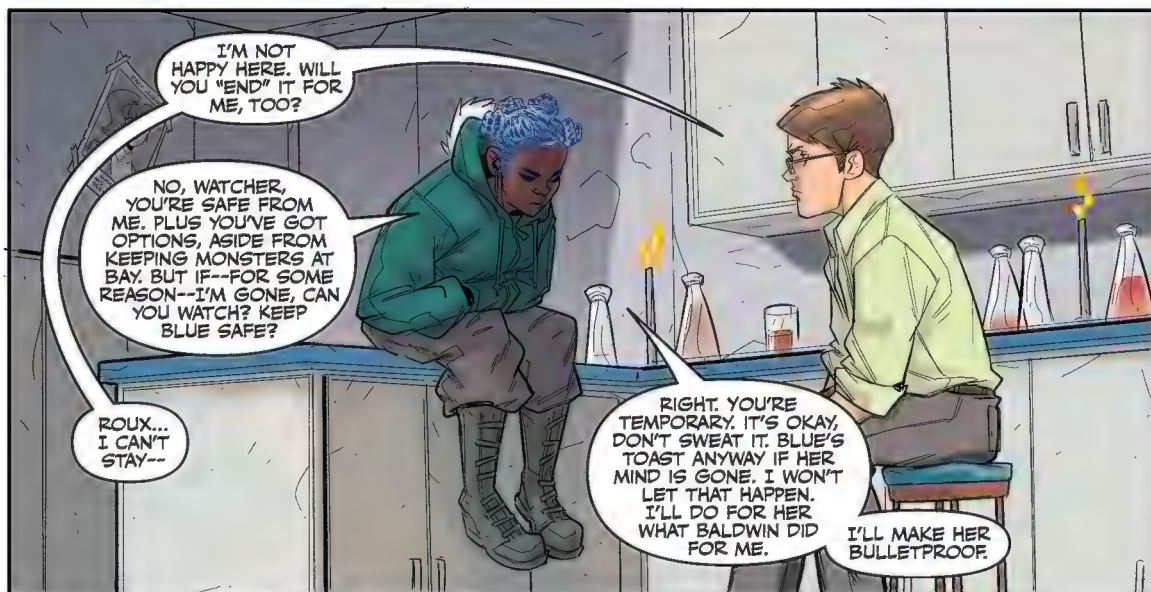
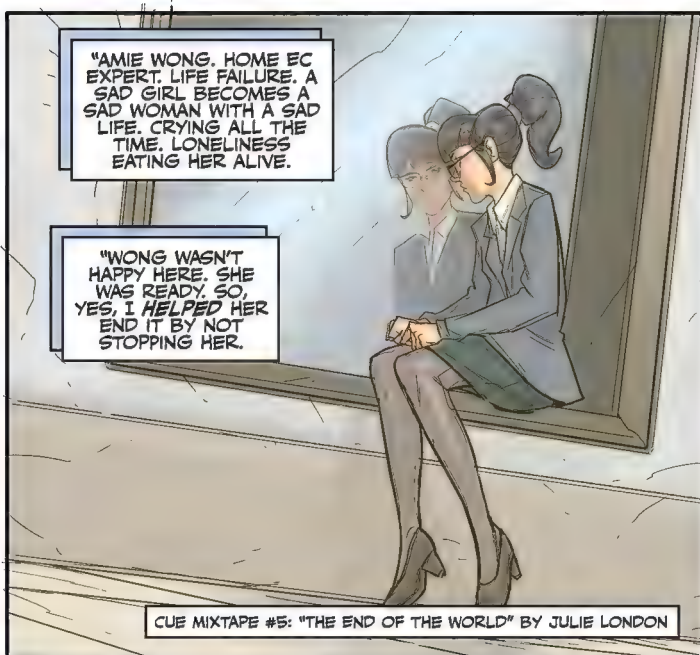
"BUT CROWE WASN'T DEAD, JUST INJURED. BUT ASSAULT. A WORD LIKE THAT CAN SEND A GIRL LIKE BLUE STRAIGHT TO HELL. JUVIE HALL. THAT'S NO PLACE FOR BLUE. NOT ON MY WATCH. SO, YEAH, I ENDED HIM."

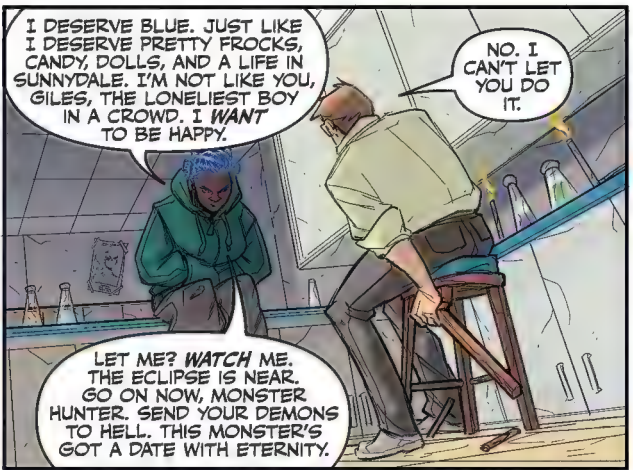
EUEDEMONIA, (NOUN): HAPPINESS, WELL-BEING.



"I WAS THE CLEANUP CREW. I SAVED HER FROM A LIVING DEATH.









BRINNING **BRINNING**

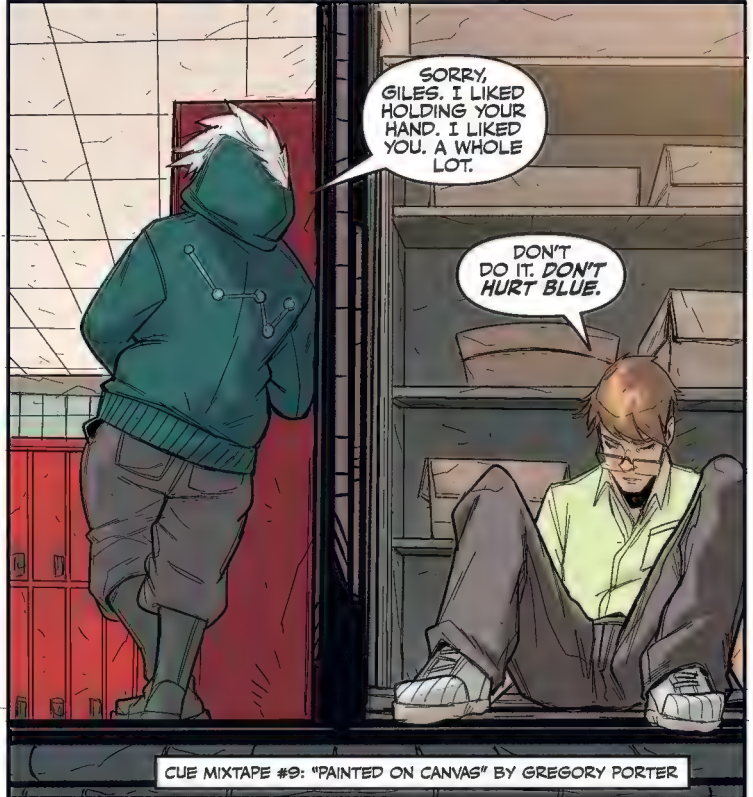


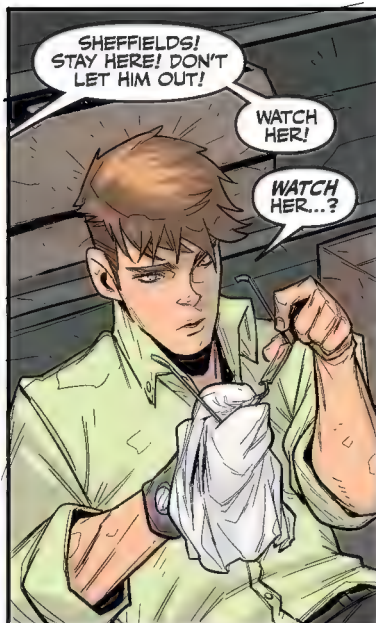
CUE MIXTAPE #7: "WTF (WHERE THEY FROM)" BY MISSY ELLIOTT, AND PHARRELL WILLIAMS





CUE MIXTAPE #8: "LOOKING IN" BY MARIAH CAREY

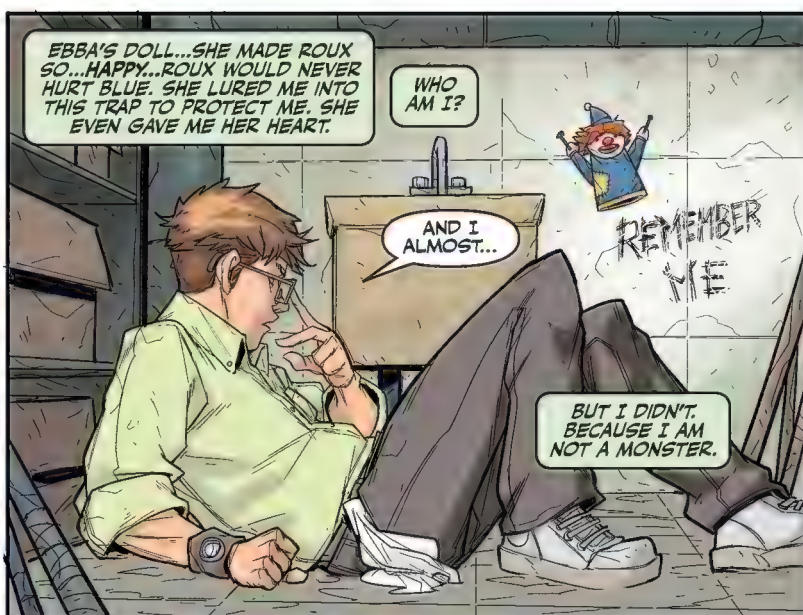




SHEFFIELDS!
STAY HERE! DON'T
LET HIM OUT!

WATCH
HER!

WATCH
HER...?



EBBA'S DOLL...SHE MADE ROUX
SO...HAPPY...ROUX WOULD NEVER
HURT BLUE. SHE LURED ME INTO
THIS TRAP TO PROTECT ME. SHE
EVEN GAVE ME HER HEART.

WHO
AM I?

AND I
ALMOST...

BUT I DIDN'T.
BECAUSE I AM
NOT A MONSTER.

REMEMBER
ME



I'M SORRY,
ROUX. I FAILED
YOU. BUT I WON'T
LET YOU FIGHT
SEED ALONE.

I AM
RUPERT
GILES.

SEED, I'M BOUND
TO YOU, DEVIL. AND I
CAN USE OUR BLOOD
BOND TO CONNECT TO
YOUR EXACT LOCATION.
AND THEN, IT'S JUST A
MATTER OF A QUICK
PHONE CALL...

AND I AM
A WATCHER.



GILES, IS
EVERYTHING
OKAY?

DAWN,
I NEED A
PORTAL.



HELLO,
SON.
MOTHER'S
HERE.

WOOF
RUF

CUE MIXTAPE #10: "FINESSE" BY BRUNO MARS AND CARDI B

ST. THOMAS BRIDGE. SAN PEDRO. ECLIPSE.

DAWN,
I OWE YOU
ONE.

NOW
WHERE'S
ROUX? OH,
CRAP.

MOTHER! HA-HA!
WELCOME TO MY
WORLD. LET ME HELP
YOU UP!

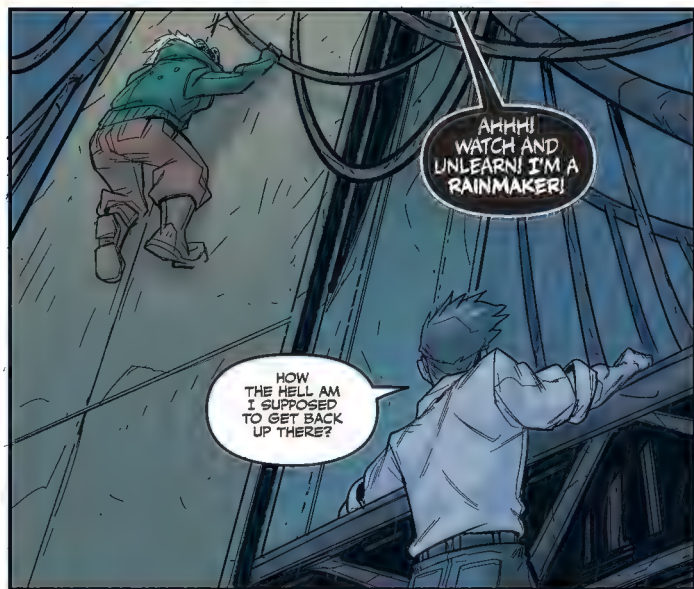
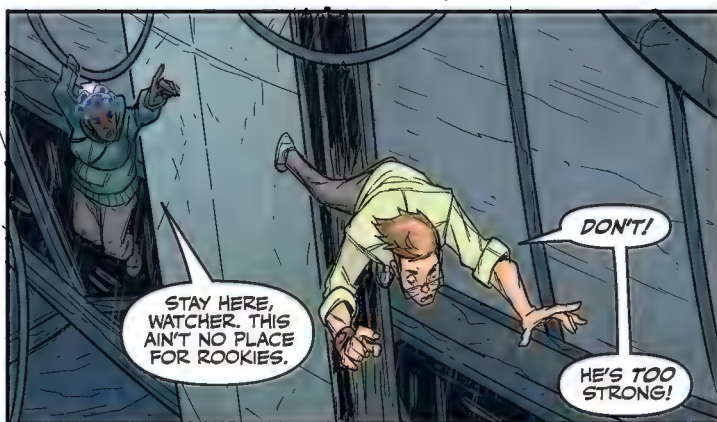
THERE,
THAT'S BETTER.
NOW ADMIT IT. IT FELT
GOOD TO BE PART OF ME.
IT'LL FEEL BETTER TO STAY.
WE'RE FAMILY. THINK OF
ALL THE THINGS WE'LL
DO TOGETHER!

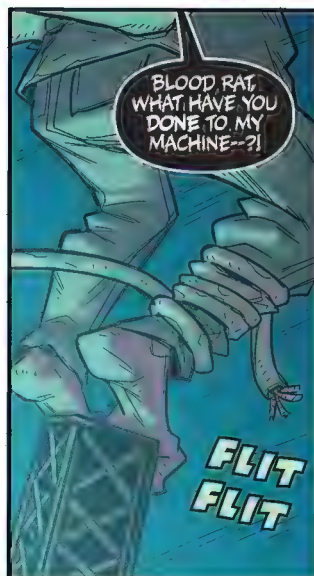
SAVE
IT, YOU
DEMENTED
CRETIN!

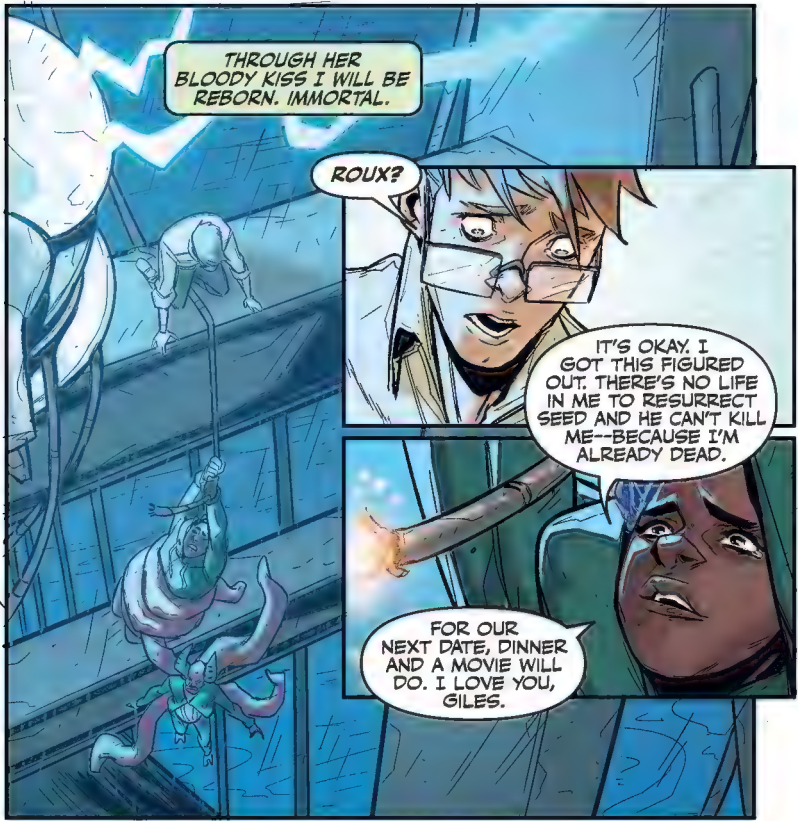
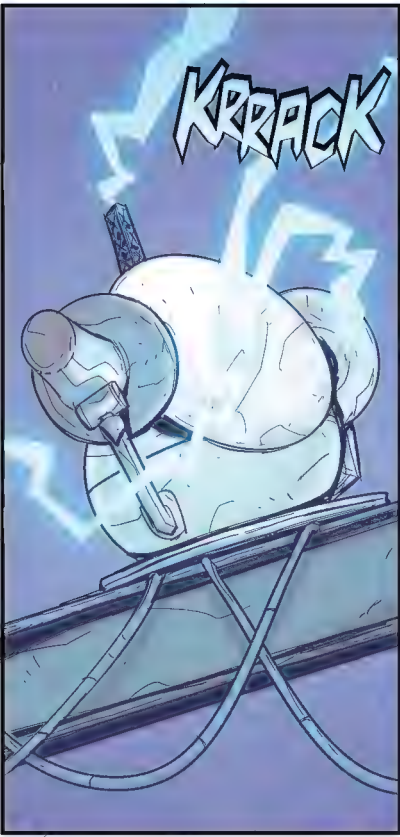
OKAY, MA.
HAVE IT YOUR WAY.
IT'S A SHAME TO
DESTROY OUR BLOOD
KINSHIP OVER A
BLOOD RAT.

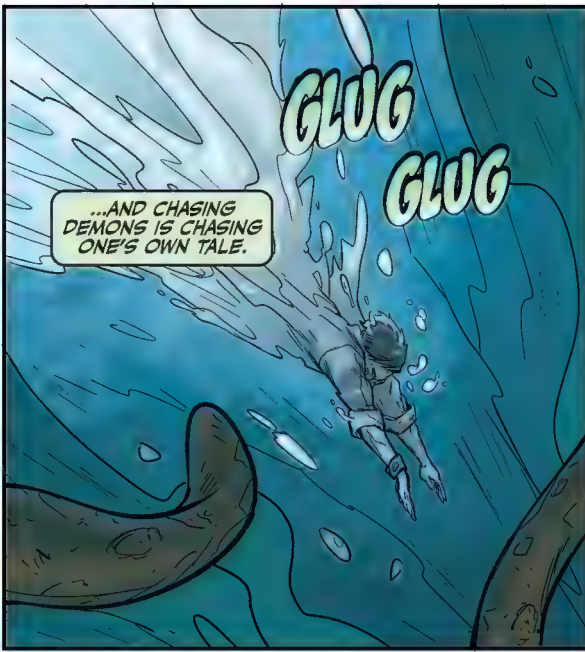
HERE'S
SOMETHING
FOR YOU.

AHHHH!



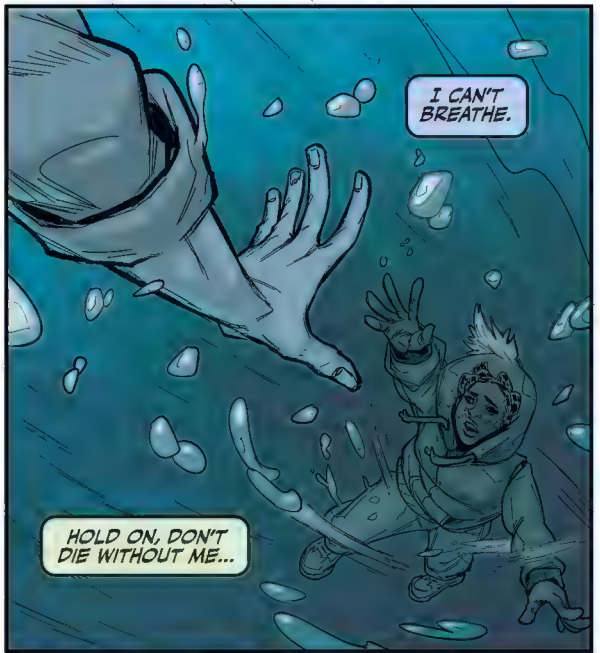






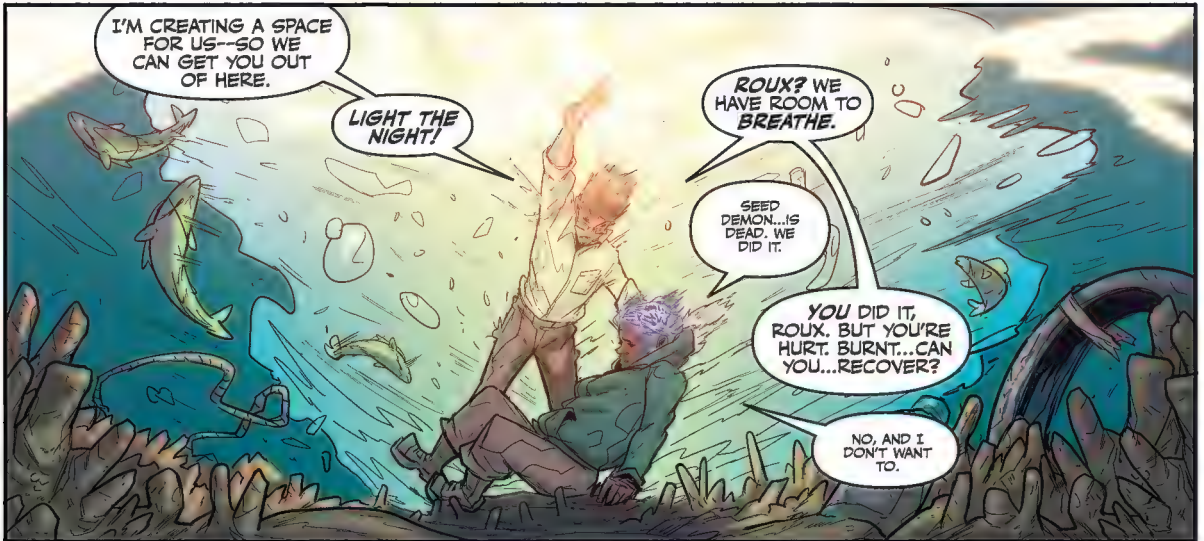
...AND CHASING
DEMONS IS CHASING
ONE'S OWN TALE.

GLUG
GLUG



I CAN'T
BREATHE.

HOLD ON, DON'T
DIE WITHOUT ME...



I'M CREATING A SPACE
FOR US--SO WE
CAN GET YOU OUT
OF HERE.

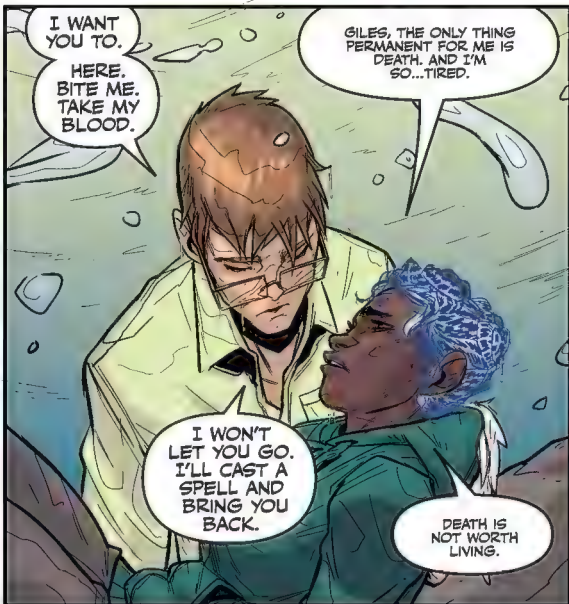
LIGHT THE
NIGHT!

ROUX? WE
HAVE ROOM TO
BREATHE.

SEED
DEMON...IS
DEAD. WE
DID IT.

YOU DID IT,
ROUX. BUT YOU'RE
HURT. BURNT...CAN
YOU...RECOVER?

NO, AND I
DON'T WANT
TO.



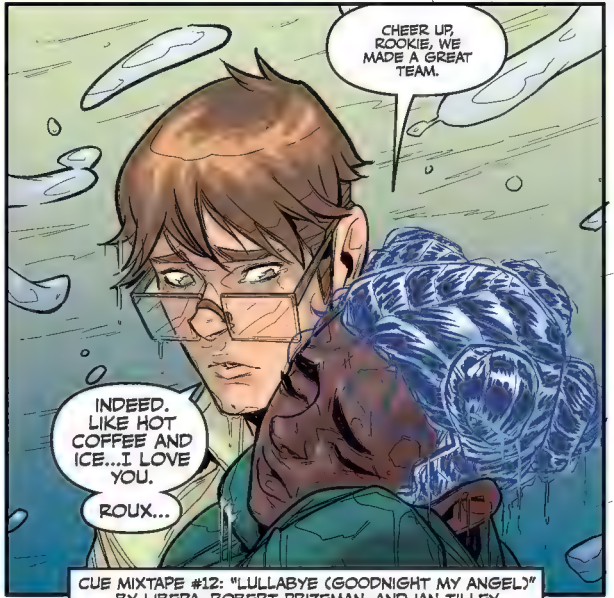
I WANT
YOU TO.

HERE.
BITE ME.
TAKE MY
BLOOD.

GILES, THE ONLY THING
PERMANENT FOR ME IS
DEATH. AND I'M
SO...TIRED.

I WON'T
LET YOU GO.
I'LL CAST A
SPELL AND
BRING YOU
BACK.

DEATH IS
NOT WORTH
LIVING.

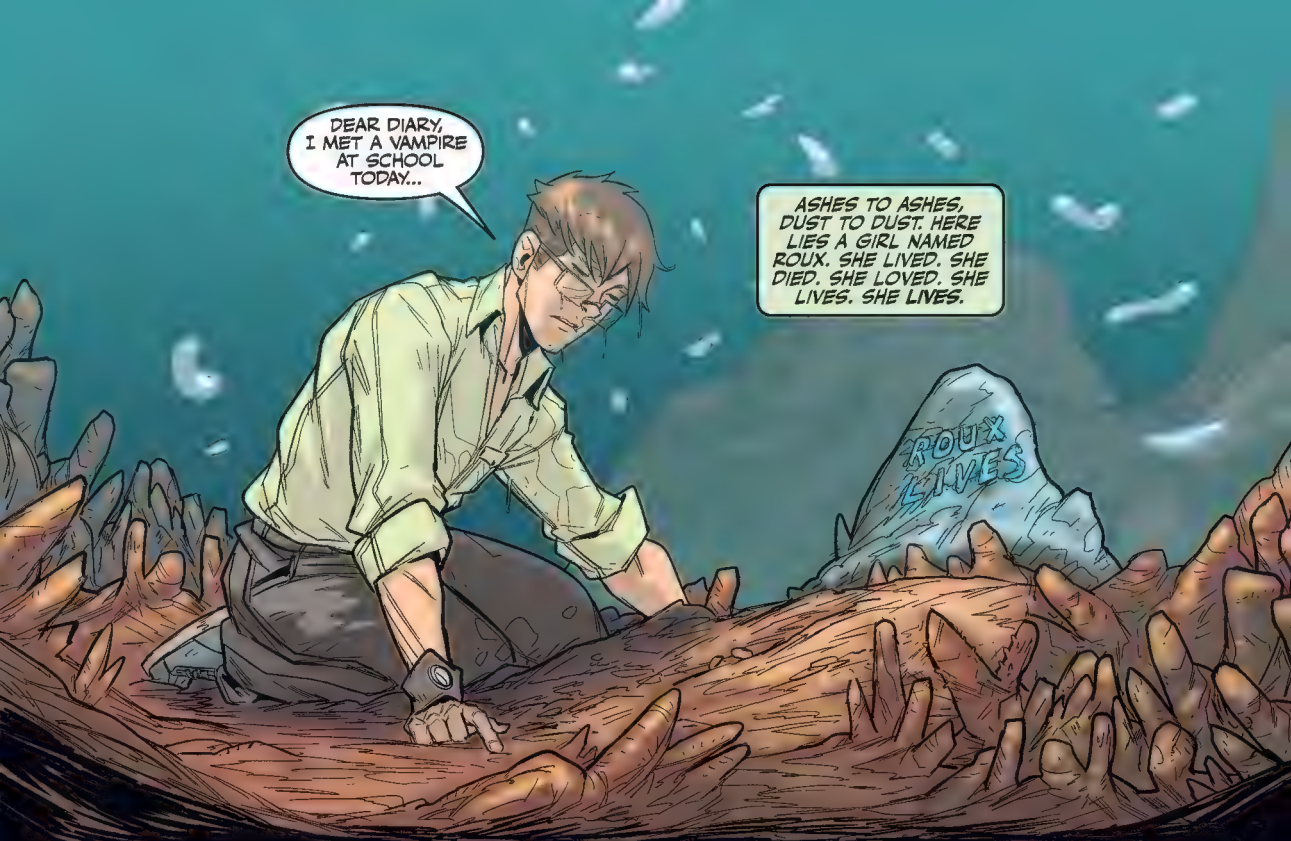


CHEER UP,
ROOKIE, WE
MADE A GREAT
TEAM.

INDEED.
LIKE HOT
COFFEE AND
ICE...I LOVE
YOU.

ROUX...

CUE MIXTAPE #12: "LULLABY (GOODNIGHT MY ANGEL)"
BY LIBERA, ROBERT PRIZEMAN, AND IAN TILLEY



DEAR DIARY,
I MET A VAMPIRE
AT SCHOOL
TODAY...

ASHES TO ASHES,
DUST TO DUST. HERE
LIES A GIRL NAMED
ROUX. SHE LIVED. SHE
DIED. SHE LOVED. SHE
LIVES. SHE LIVES.



SHE'S THE COLOR
OF TAR, SO BLACK
SHE GLOWS BLUE...

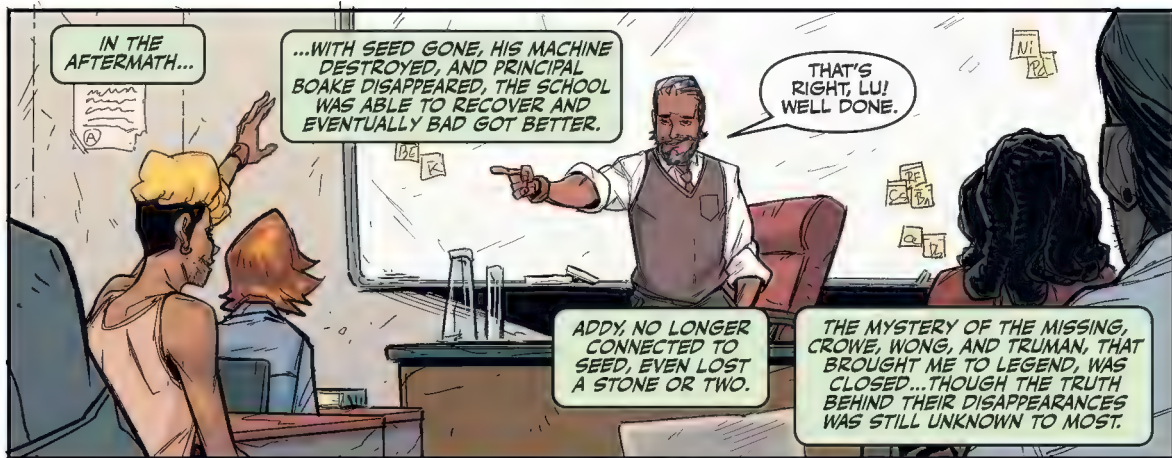
YOU ALL
HAVE REPENTED
AND WE ARE
SAVED!

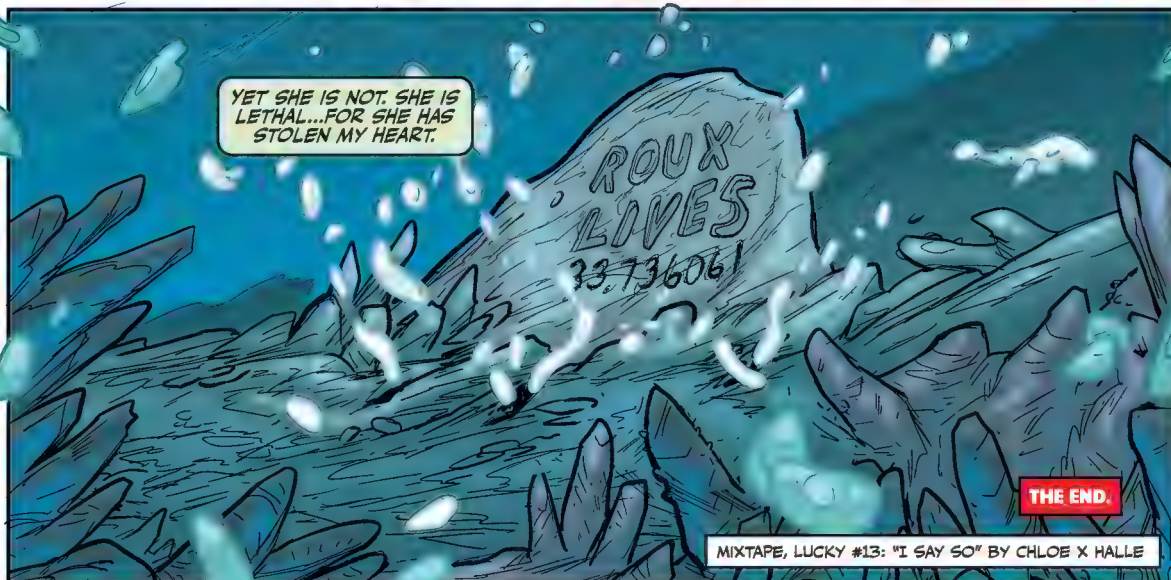


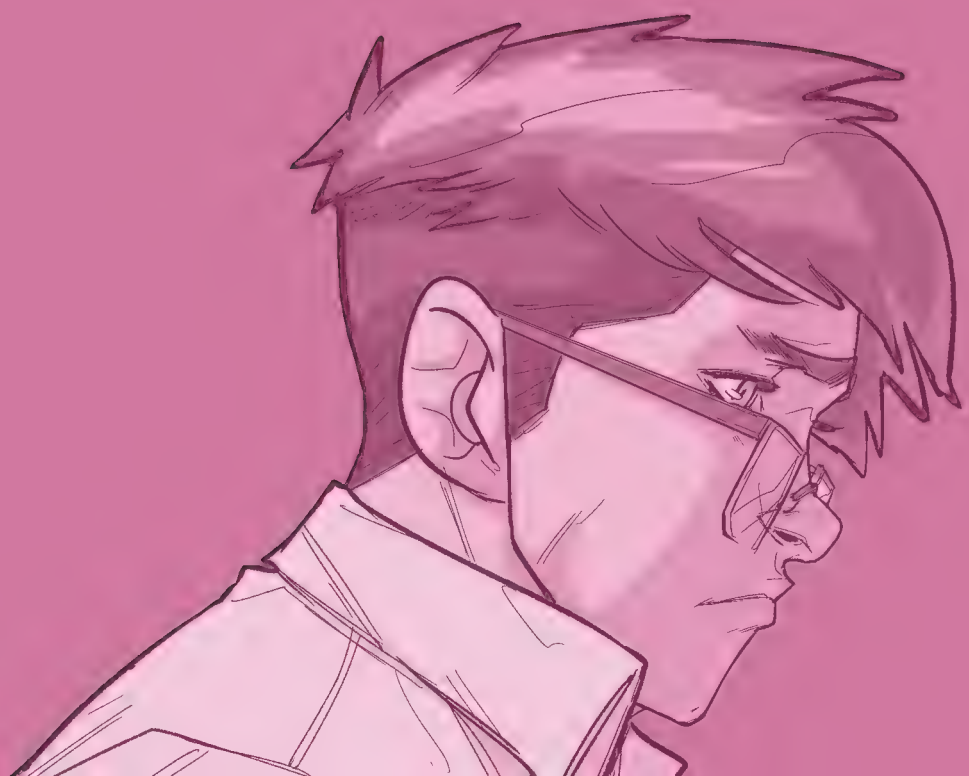
...AND WHEN I SQUINT
I CAN SEE TATTOOS,
WORDS, ETCHED UNDER
HER SKIN, WAITING
TO SURFACE...



...AND HER HAIR...A
HALO OF ICE-BLUE
SPUN SUGAR, CAPPED
AROUND HER FACE.





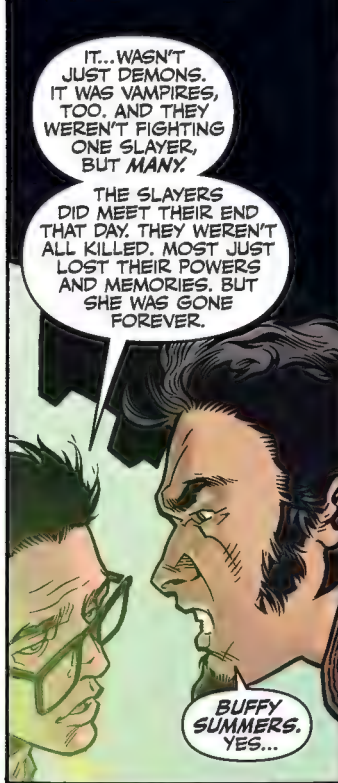




THE RECKONING

THE RECKONING
CHAPTER ONE





IT... WASN'T JUST DEMONS. IT WAS VAMPIRES, TOO. AND THEY WEREN'T FIGHTING ONE SLAYER, BUT **MANY**.

THE SLAYERS DID MEET THEIR END THAT DAY. THEY WEREN'T ALL KILLED. MOST JUST LOST THEIR POWERS AND MEMORIES. BUT SHE WAS GONE FOREVER.

BUFFY SUMMERS. YES...



"...THE SAME BUFFY SUMMERS WHO CAME TO OUR ERA NOT LONG AGO. AND BY DOING SO, MADE THE TIMELINE...WOBBLY.

"LEFT A TRAIL, IF YOU WILL, BACK TO HER TIME. A TRAIL THAT CAN BE FOLLOWED..."



...WITH THE **'SCEPTER OF THE VEILS**, WHICH I'VE SPENT COUNTLESS CREDITS AND LIVES TO ACQUIRE.

NOW I CAN GO BACK TO BUFFY SUMMERS' ERA. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE RECKONING TO MAKE MYSELF **ALL-POWERFUL**.

THEN RETURN HERE, KILL YOUR SISTER, AND **RULE** THIS WORLD.



I LIKE IT. ONE NOTE: IT SHOULD BE **ME**.

HA HA HA! YOU? A COMMON **LURK**? WHO CRUMBLES TO ASH AT A SIMPLE STAKE THROUGH THE HEART?

YOU'RE FUNNY, HARTH. I BELIEVE I'LL KEEP YOU AROUND. YOU MIGHT YET HAVE USEFUL INFORMATION, AND YOU AMUSE ME.



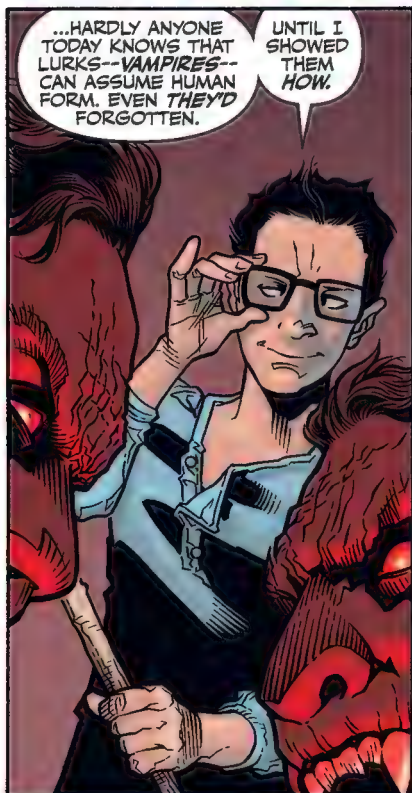
BUT NEVER FORGET, I CAN DESTROY YOU UTTERLY--

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, IDIOTS? **GET BACK!** YOU'VE RUINED MY THREAT! NOW I HAVE TO START OVER--



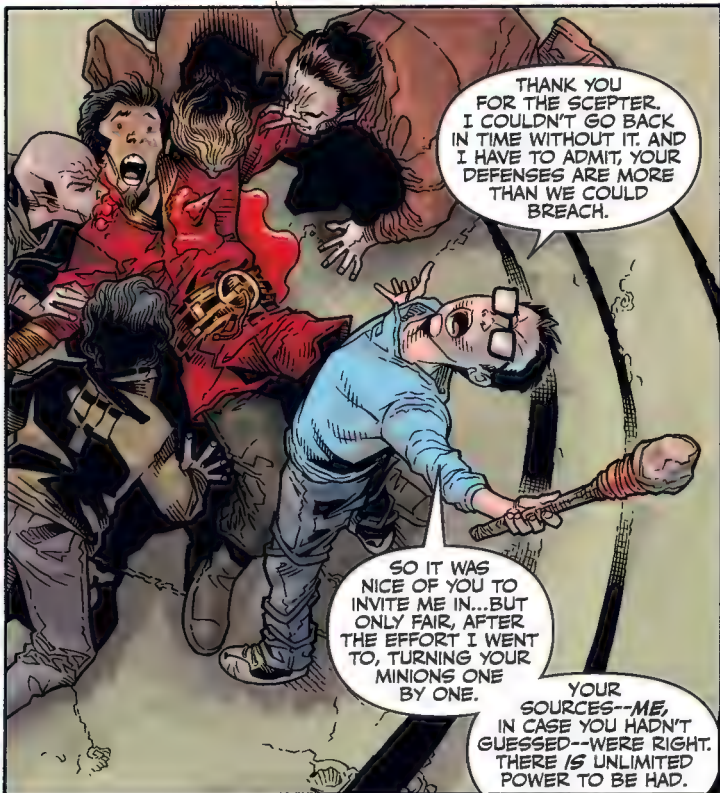
--URKK!

SUCH
CONTEMPT FOR
US LOWLY "LURKS."
SO MUCH, YOU
DIDN'T BOTHER
TO DO YOUR
RESEARCH...



...HARDLY ANYONE
TODAY KNOWS THAT
LURKS--**VAMPIRES**--
CAN ASSUME HUMAN
FORM. EVEN **THEY'D**
FORGOTTEN.

UNTIL I
SHOWED
THEM
HOW.



THANK YOU
FOR THE SCEPTER.
I COULDN'T GO BACK
IN TIME WITHOUT IT. AND
I HAVE TO ADMIT, YOUR
DEFENSES ARE MORE
THAN WE COULD
BREACH.

SO IT WAS
NICE OF YOU TO
INVITE ME IN...BUT
ONLY FAIR, AFTER
THE EFFORT I WENT
TO, TURNING YOUR
MINIONS ONE
BY ONE.

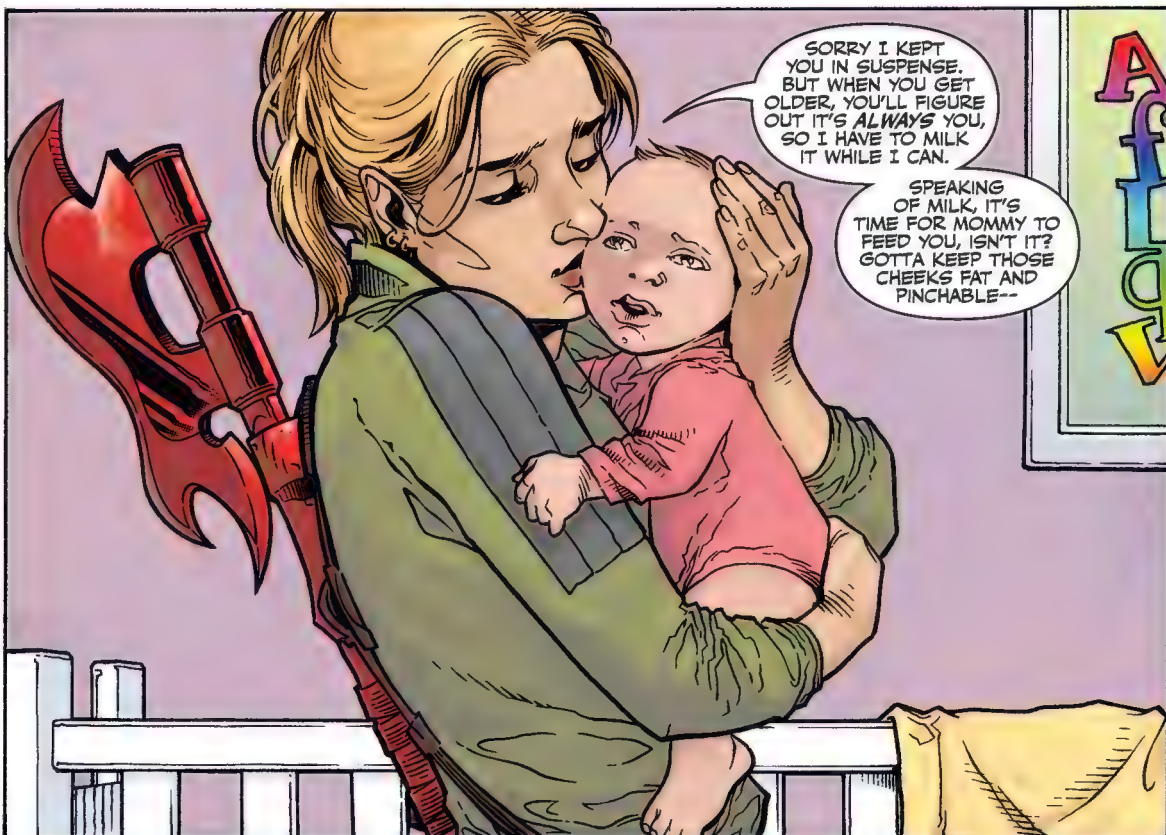
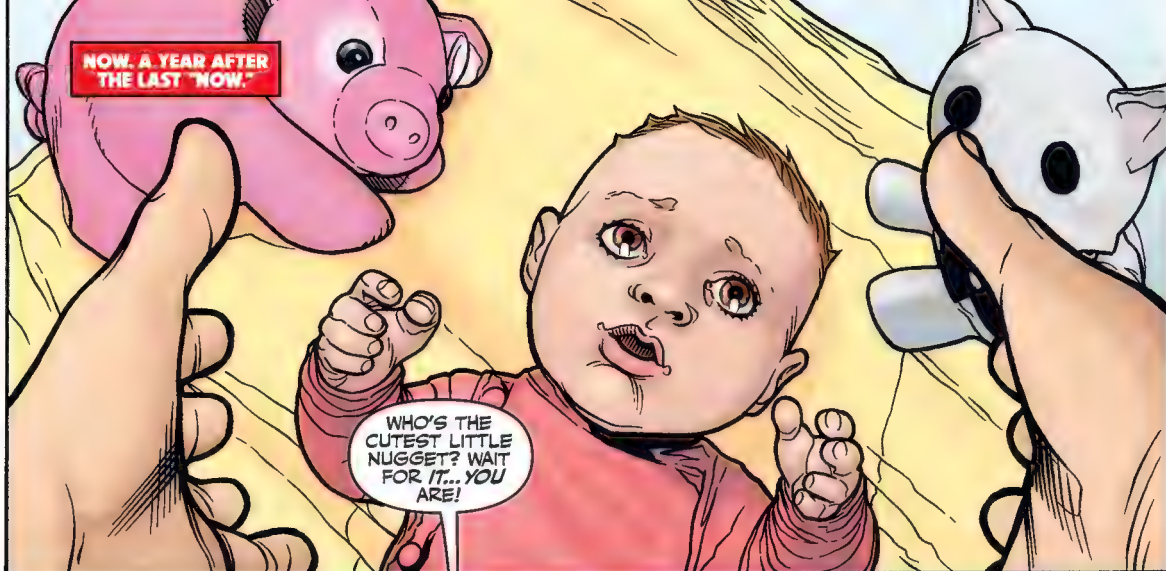
YOUR
SOURCES--**ME**,
IN CASE YOU HADN'T
GUESSED--WERE RIGHT.
THERE **IS** UNLIMITED
POWER TO BE HAD.

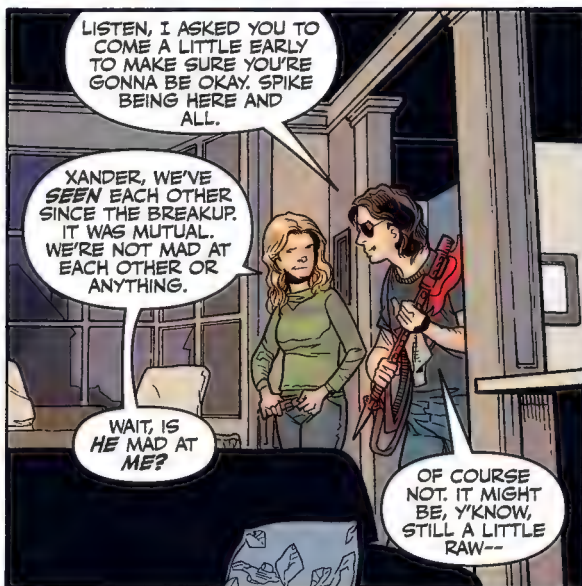
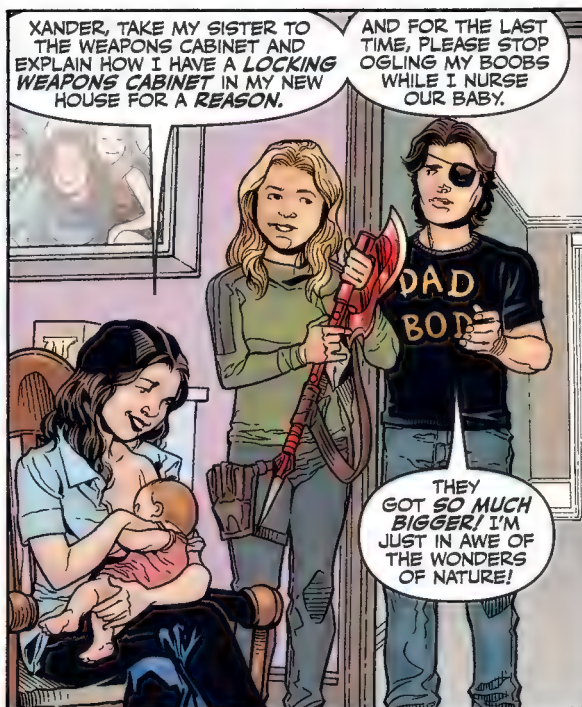
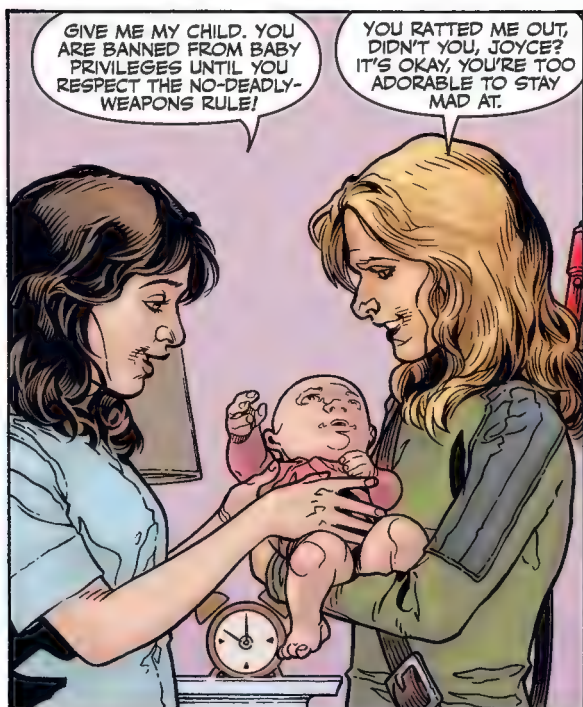


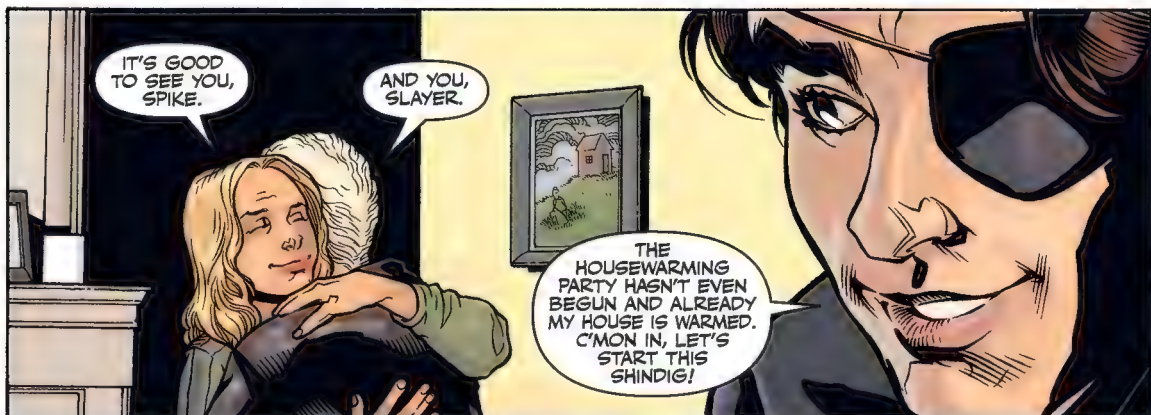
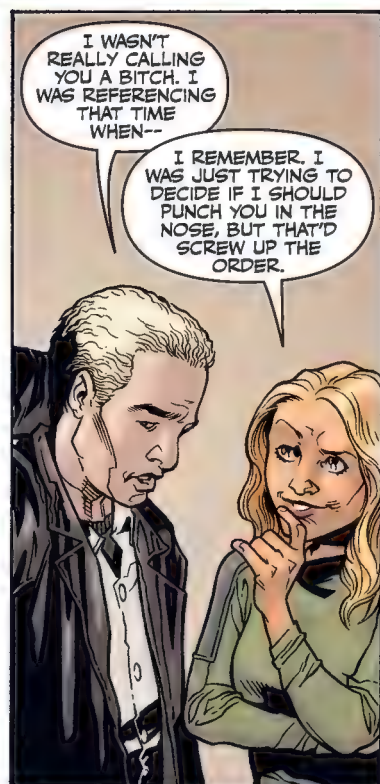
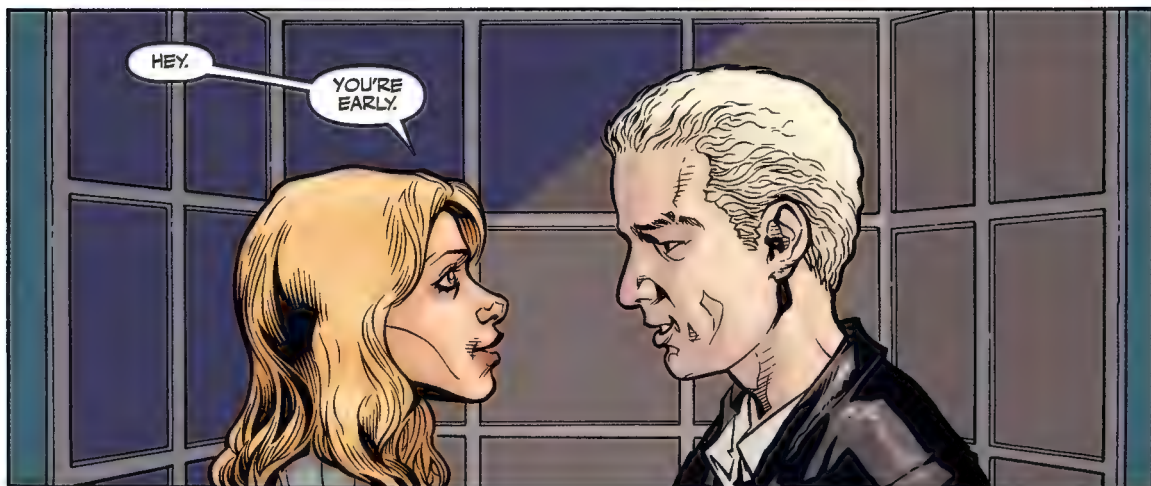
PRESIDING
OVER THE END OF
THE SLAYERS IN
TWO DIFFERENT
TIMELINES...

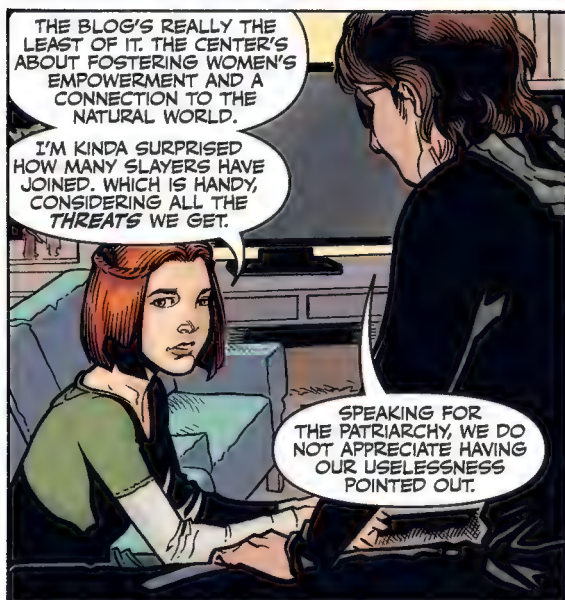
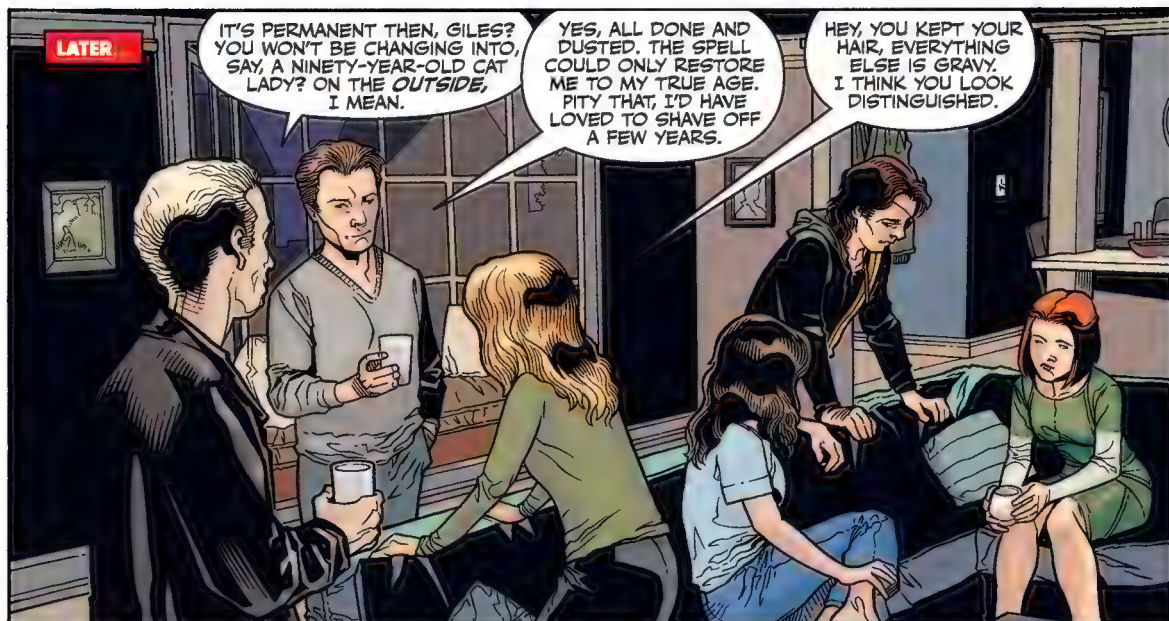
...IS JUST
BLOOD-ICING ON
THE CAKE.

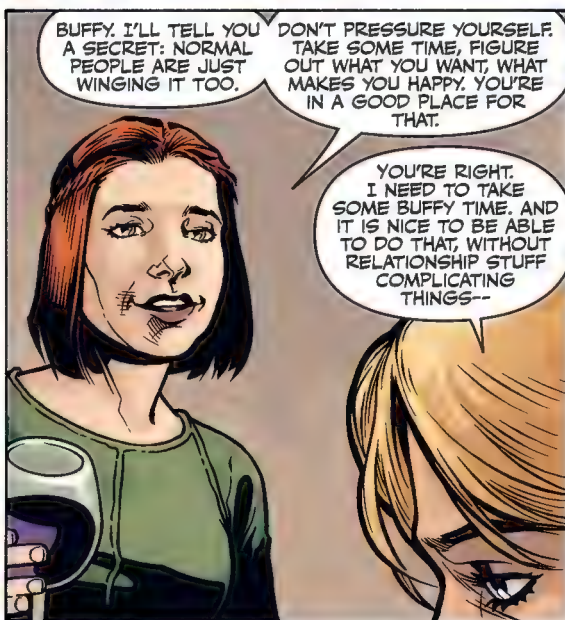
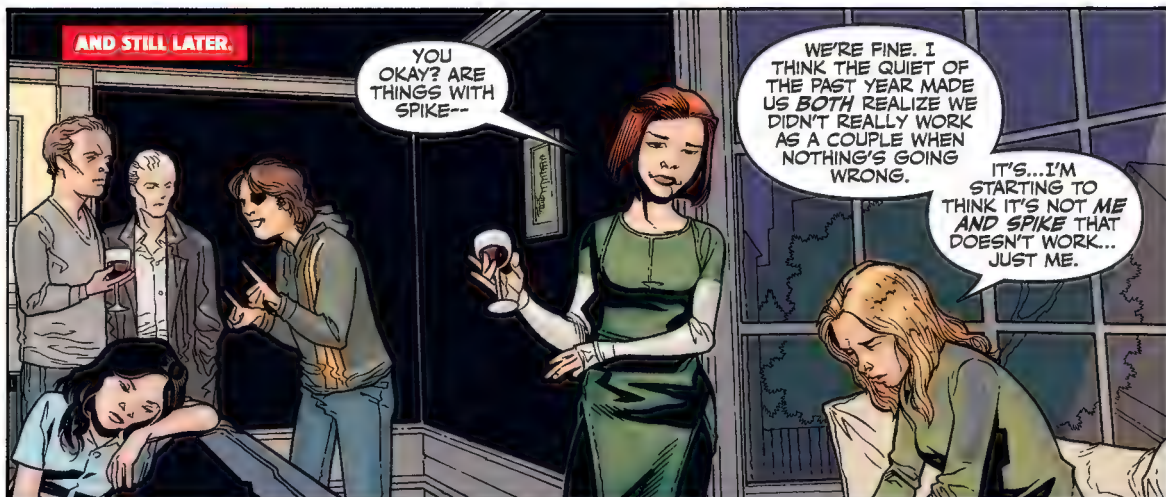
"THE TROUBLE WITH CHANGING
THE WORLD IS...THE WORLD
CHANGES."--BUFFY SUMMERS, EARLY
21ST CENTURY. (FROM TALES OF THE
SLAYERS, WATCHER PRESS, 2027.)

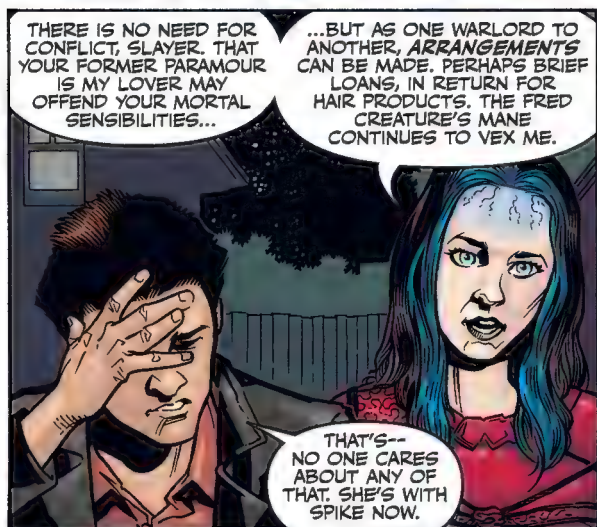
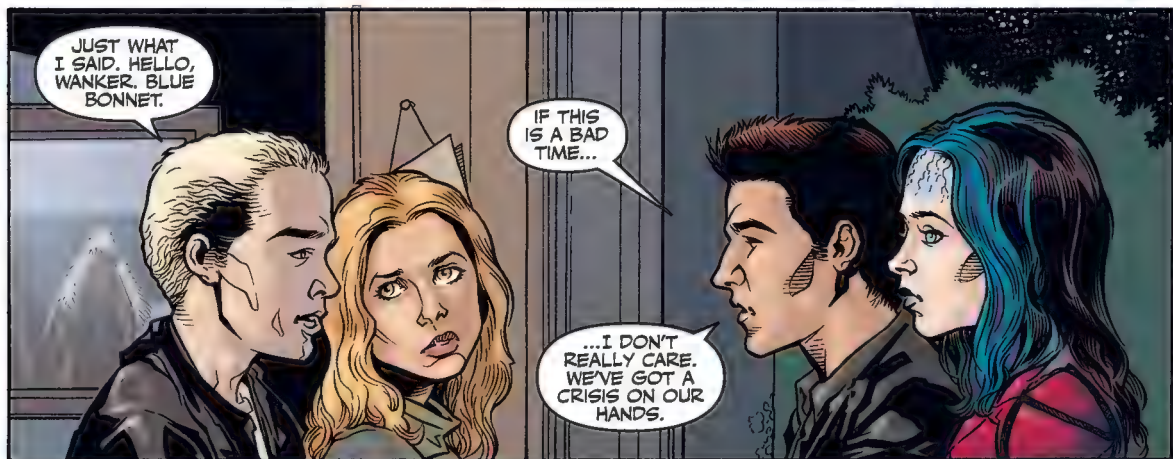
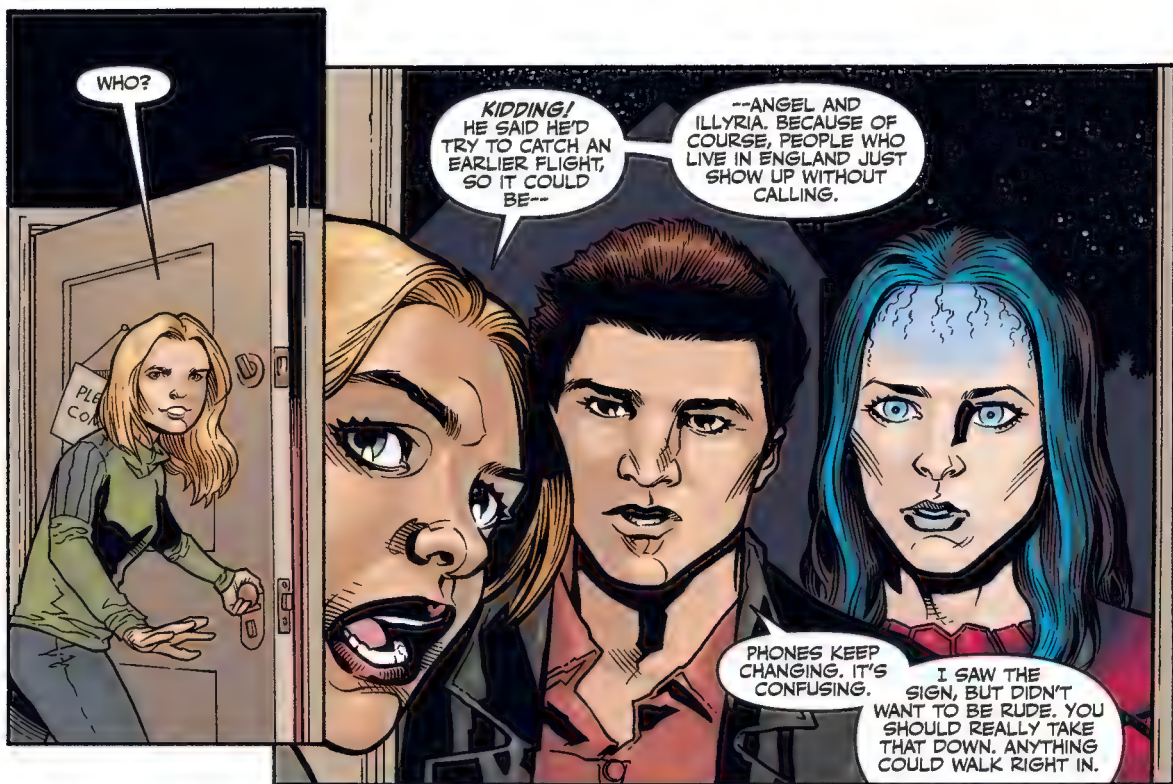


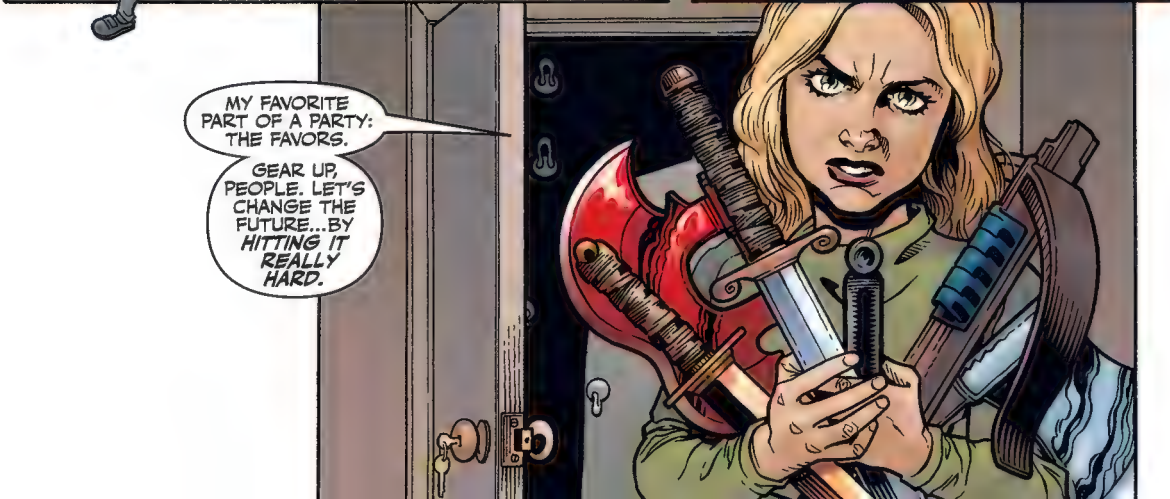
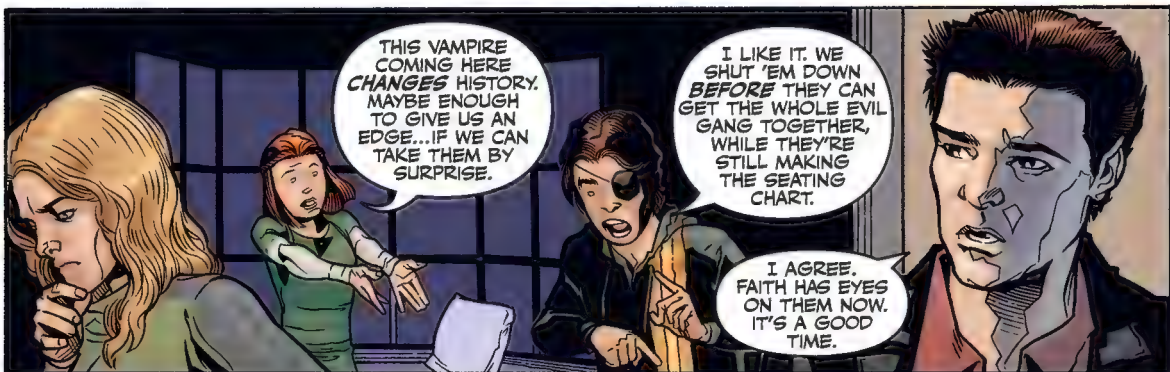
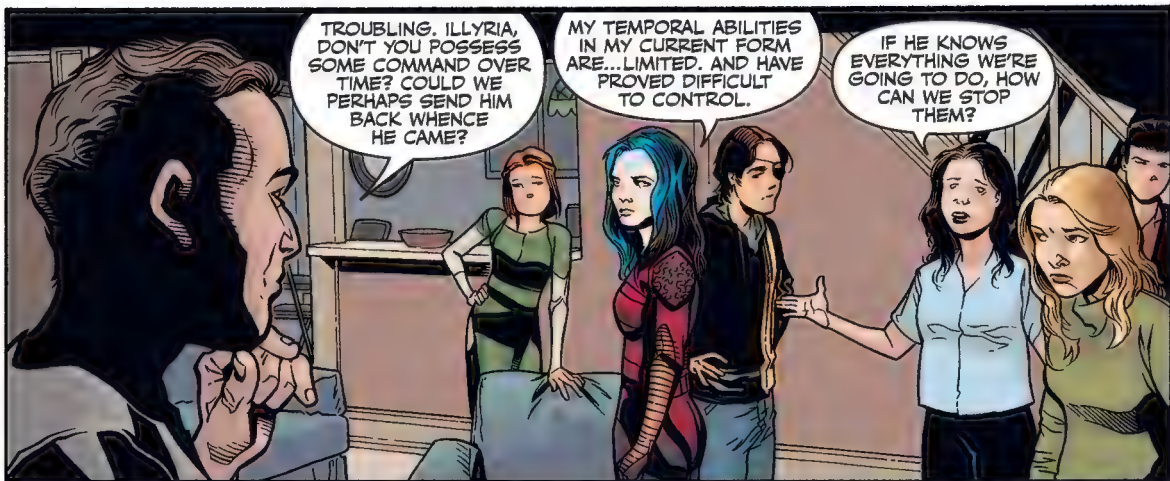














I'VE PULLED THE BLUEPRINTS FOR WILLOW ROSENBERG'S CENTER, MR. HARTH.

BEAUTIFUL. OKAY, I'LL MAP OUT EVERYONE'S ATTACK POINT BASED ON MY BEST RECOLLECTIONS.

THIS DOES NOT SIT WELL WITH ME. SETTING ASIDE THE ATROCITY OF TAURON, DUKE OF THE BLOOD PLAINS, TAKING COMMANDS FROM A DWARF GUTTER-VAMPIRE...

...WHY SHOULD WE ATTACK THE SLAYERS AND THE WITCH IN THEIR PLACE OF POWER?

BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE I REMEMBER IT HAPPENING, AND WHERE I REMEMBER YOU WINNING. THAT IS WHAT YOU WANT, RIGHT?

WE'VE CONFIRMED THIS CREATURE'S TEMPORAL ENERGIES HAIL FROM DAYS YET TO COME, TAURON. HE SPEAKS THE TRUTH.

OF COURSE, IF YOU THINK YOU'RE SO ROCKETSHIP YOU WANT TO PURPOSELY CHANGE HISTORY JUST TO FEED YOUR EGO, AND THROW AWAY A GUARANTEED WIN--

Y'KNOW WHAT?



YOU FURTHER DIMINISH YOURSELF, ILLYRIA. JOIN US. WHEN WE RULE, WE SHALL RESTORE YOUR POWER, AND THE STATION YOU ENJOYED OF OLD.

I SPENT MY RULE CRUSHING PRETENDERS LIKE YOU, OCYPETE. AND I ASSURE YOU, I AM ENJOYING THAT QUITE ENOUGH ALREADY.

YOU'D ATTACK MY HOME? MY PEOPLE?

TO BE FAIR, I WAS AGAINST THAT. STILL GOING TO PULP YOU.

YOU MESSED UP, HARTH. SO EAGER TO GET A PIECE OF THE ACTION, YOU MADE IT POSSIBLE TO CHANGE HISTORY, JUST BY COMING HERE.

THAT WOULD BE TRUE...



...IF NOT FOR THE FACT THAT I REMEMBER ALL THIS, FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE.

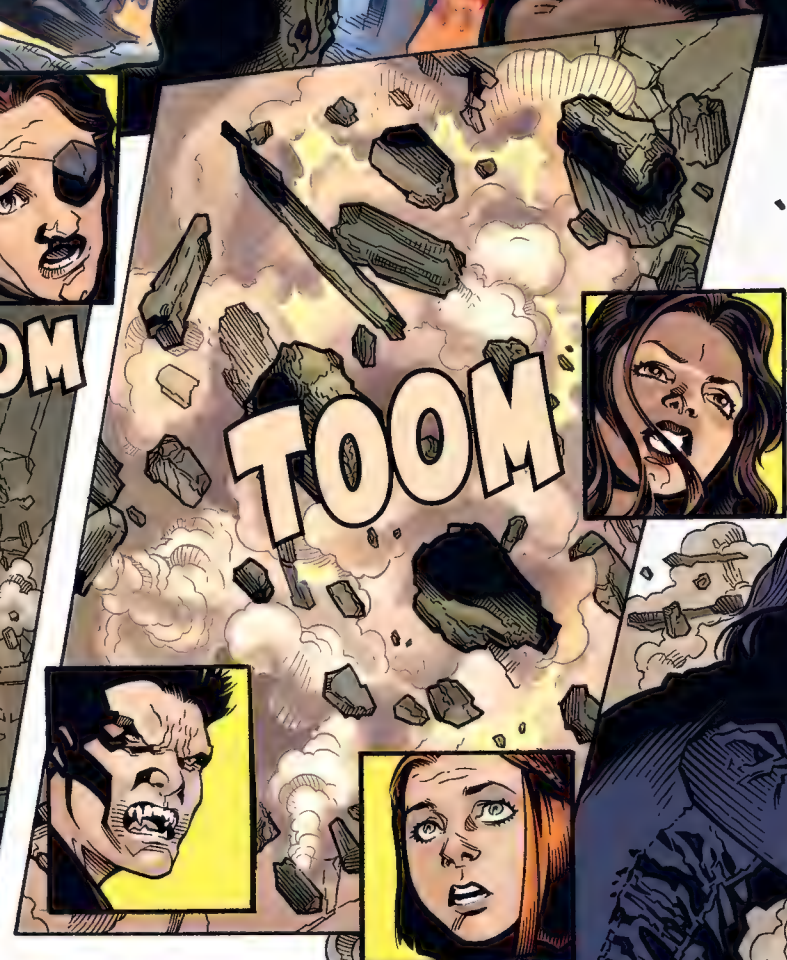
ME BEING HERE WAS ALREADY PART OF HISTORY, YOU DIM BLONDE NEEDS.



THOOM

WE'RE READY FOR YOU.

BKOOOM



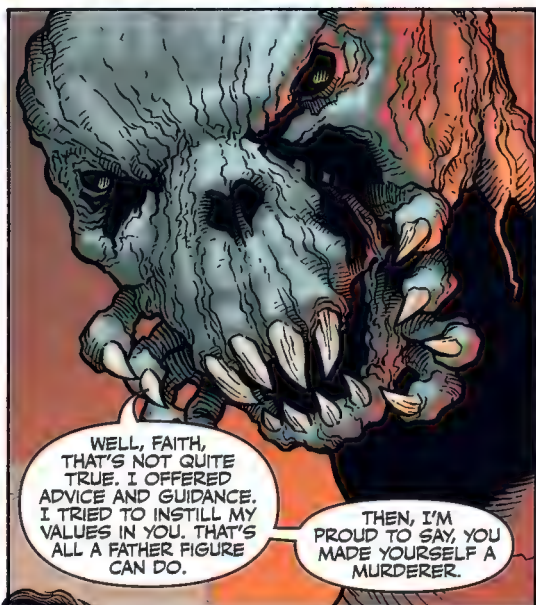
TOOOM



OH MY GOODNESS, IF YOU COULD SEE YOUR FACES! I SO LOVE A GOOD SURPRISE.

SORRY, I'M BEING RUDE. FOR THE NEWCOMERS--HELLO, BLUE LADY--I'M DICK WILKINS. USED TO BE THE MAYOR OF SUNNYDALE.

BUFFY, FAITH, AND I GO WAY, WAY BACK! IT'S BEEN A DOG'S AGE, HASN'T IT, GIRLS?





BE
PREPARED!
THAT'S WHAT THE
BOY SCOUTS
SAY.

AND WHEN
YOU HAVE A PAL
FROM THE
FUTURE...



...IT
REALLY
HELPS.

RRNCH

THE INTEL
WE GOT--HARTH
PLANTED IT
TO DRAW US
HERE.



AND WE
WALKED RIGHT
INTO IT.

SO LET'S
WALK OUT,
THROUGH ANYONE
WHO GETS IN
OUR WAY.





HEEEERE'S
MAYOR
WILKINS!

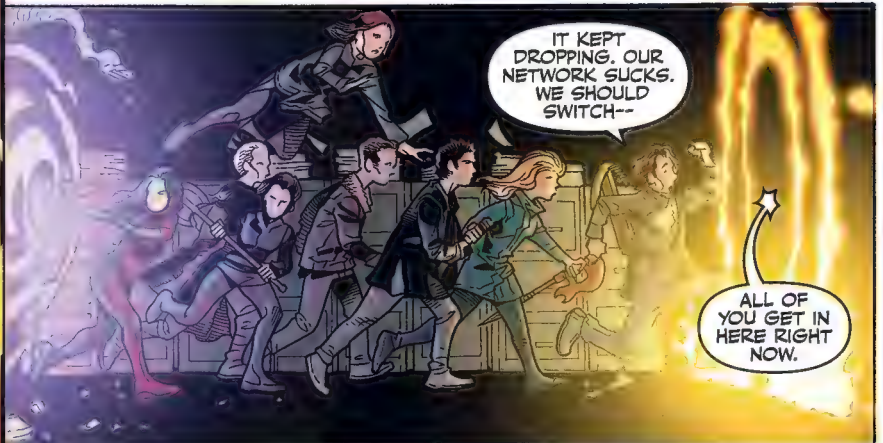
HA HA!
GET IT? FROM THAT
MOVIE. I DON'T SEE
MANY R-RATED FILMS,
BUT THAT WAS A
CORKER.



SPINNING
WHEEL OF DEATH
IS GETTING VERY
LITERAL--



I KNEW
IT. NEXT TIME
JUST CALL!



IT KEPT
DROPPING. OUR
NETWORK SUCKS.
WE SHOULD
SWITCH--

ALL OF
YOU GET IN
HERE RIGHT
NOW.



NO! WE HAD
THEM! THIS IS
INTOLERABLE!

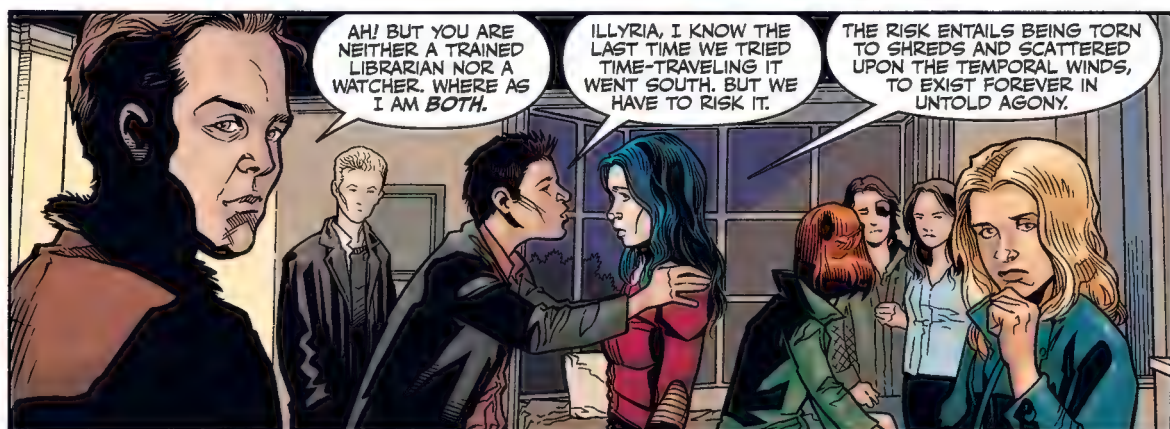
NOW,
DON'T BLOW A
GASKET, BARBATOS.
EVERYTHING'S
GOING ACCORDING
TO PLAN.

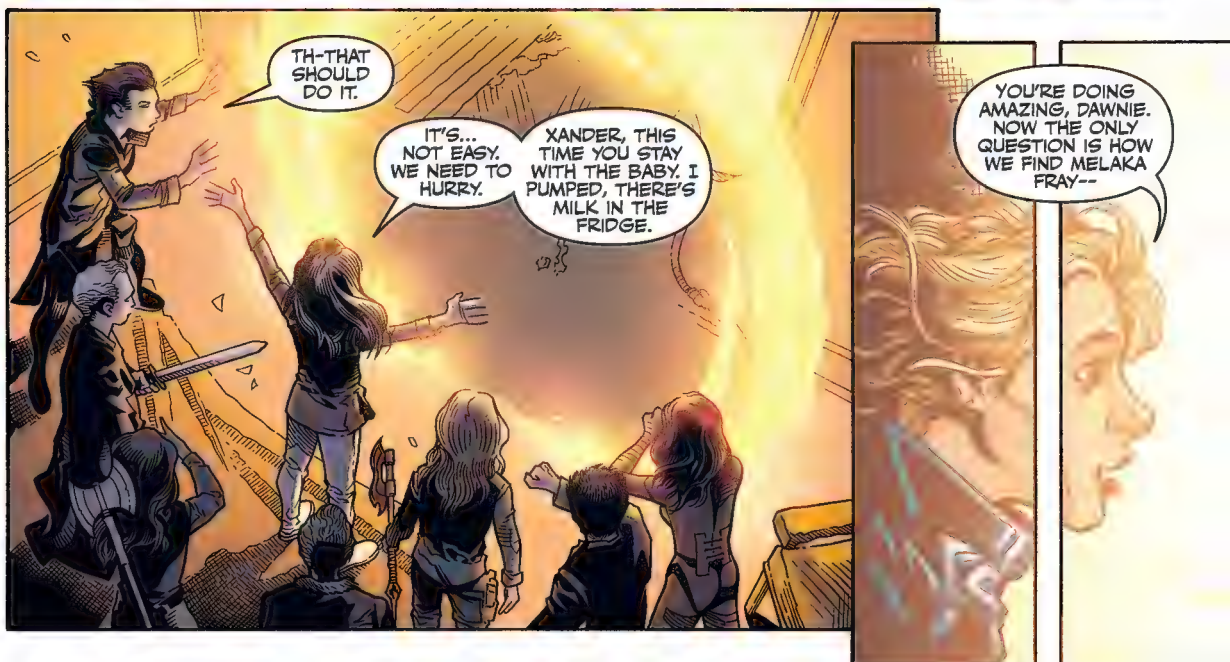
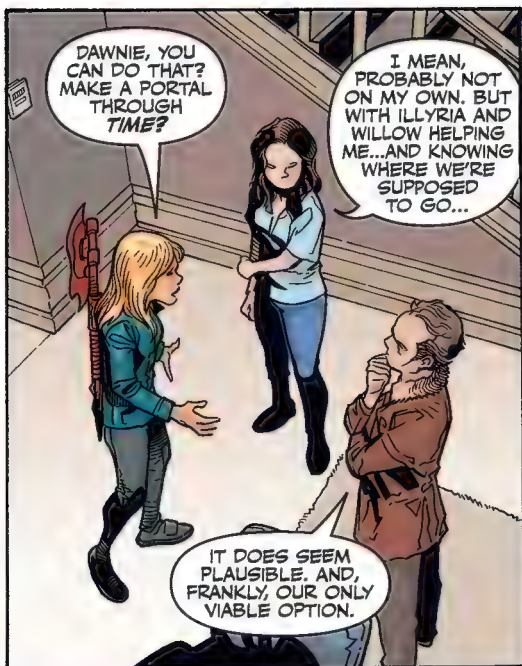


ISN'T THAT
RIGHT, LITTLE
BUDDY?

IT ALL
WENT EXACTLY AS
I REMEMBER. NOW
THIS IS WHERE IT
STARTS TO GET
REALLY FUN.

AND
DON'T CALL
ME "LITTLE
BUDDY."







SUMMERS.
COULDN'T
WIPE OUR WORLD
LAST TIME, SO
JAUNTED BACK TO
TRY AGAIN?



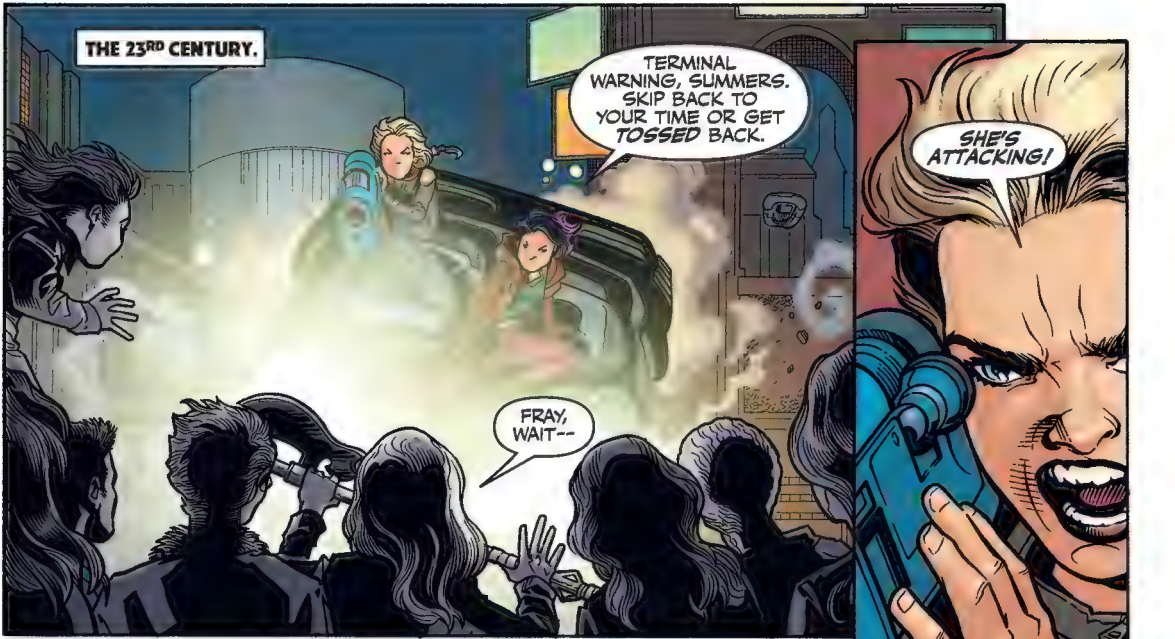
TURN ROUND.
SCURRY BACK
HOME.
OR THE FRAY
SISTERS'LL KICK
YOU THERE.

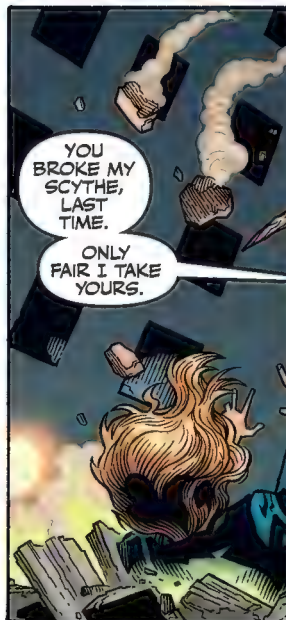
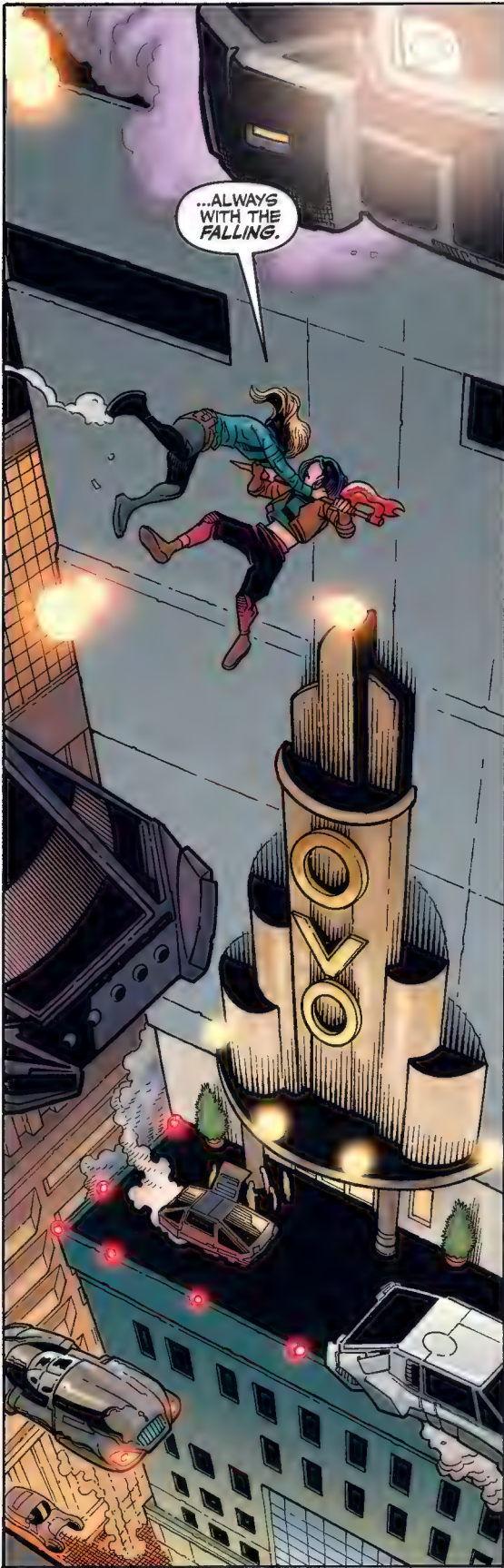
IN PIECES,
NEED BE.

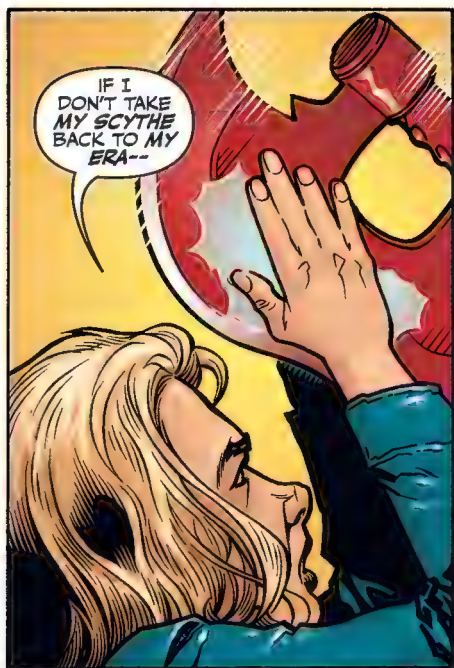




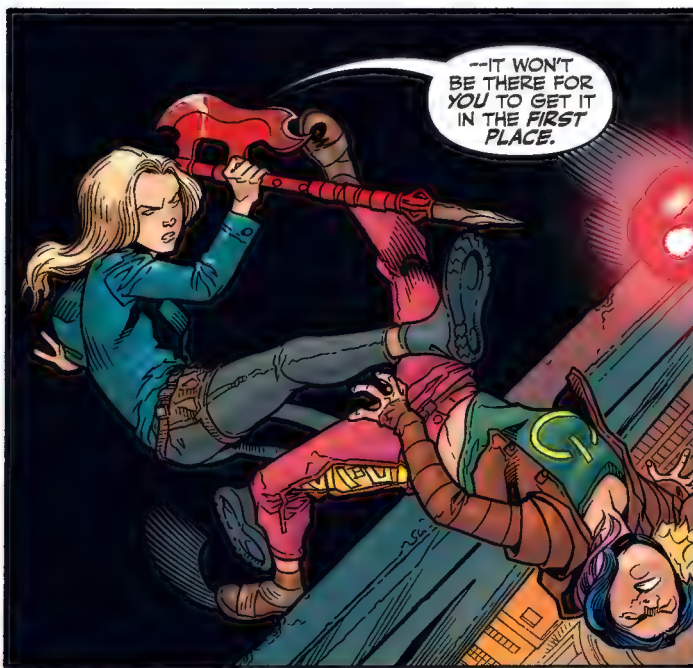
THE RECKONING
CHAPTER TWO







IF I
DON'T TAKE
MY SCYTHE
BACK TO MY
ERA--



--IT WON'T
BE THERE FOR
YOU TO GET IT
IN THE FIRST
PLACE.



HHH.
TIME TRAVEL'S
HARD.



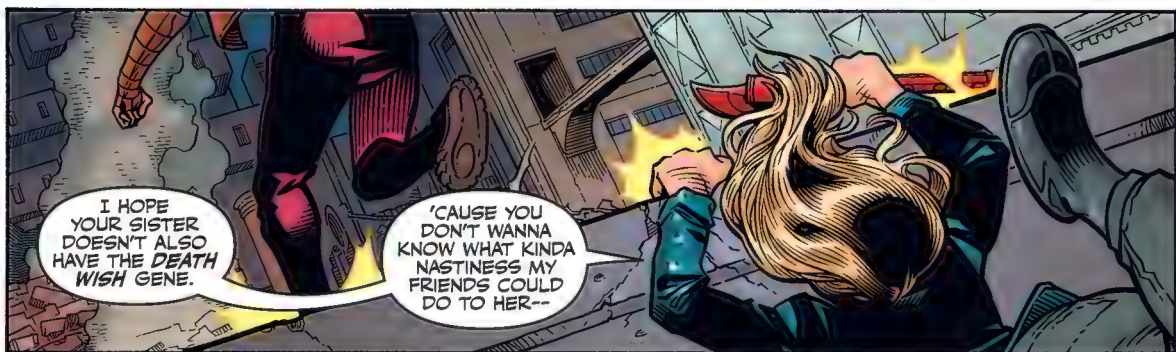
GOOD
REASON NOT
TO DO IT.

LISTEN,
FIFTH ELEMENT
BARBIE--



--I DON'T
WANT TO BE IN
YOUR DYSTOPIAN
Y.A. NOVEL OF
A WORLD!

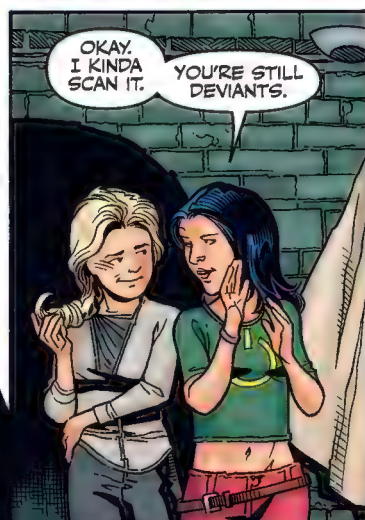
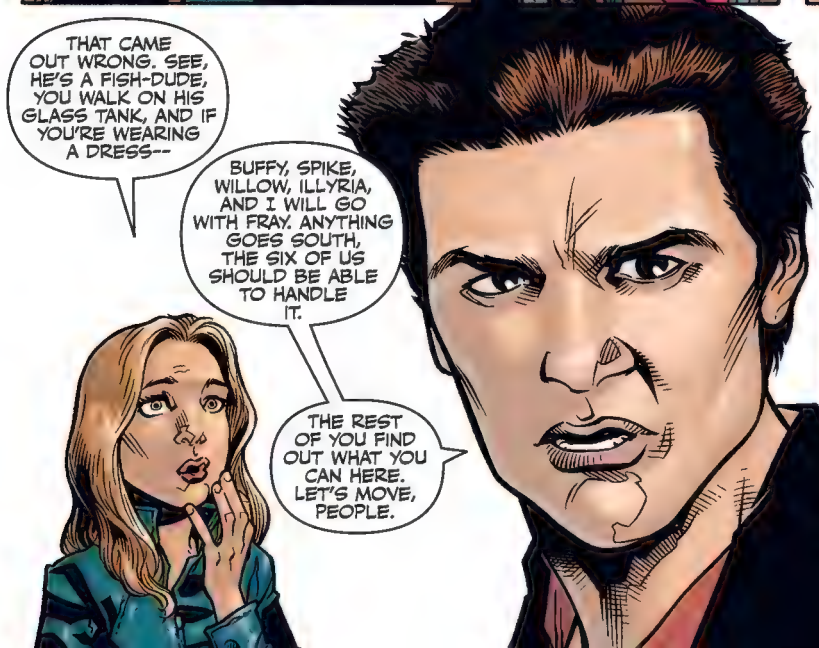
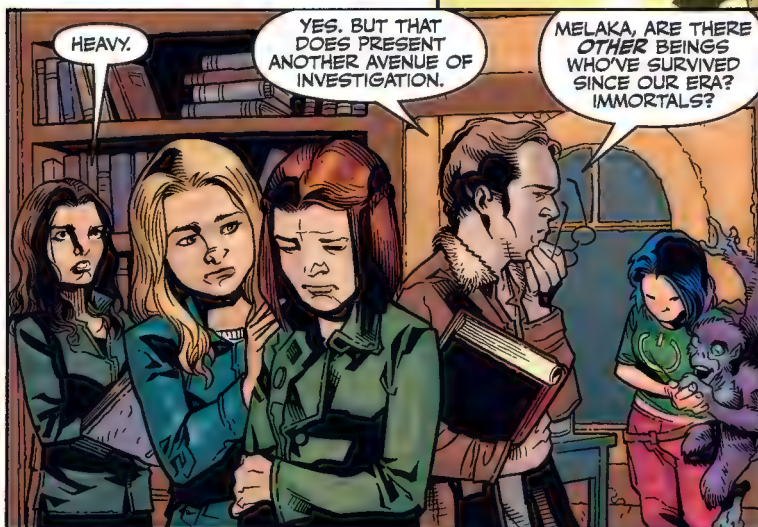
I ONLY CAME
HERE 'CAUSE YOUR
ANNOYING FANGY
BROTHER CAME TO
MY TIME AND HE'S
ALREADY MESSING
WITH IT!

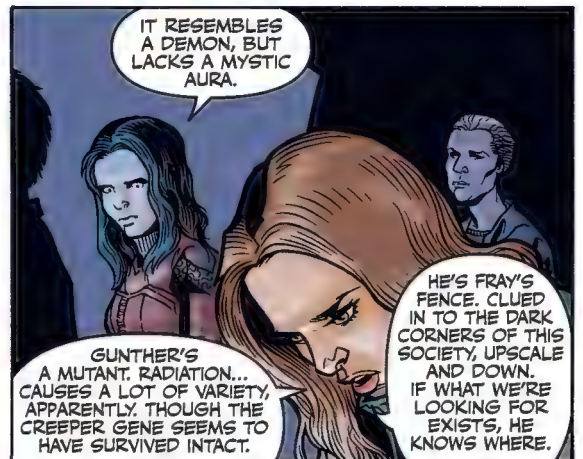
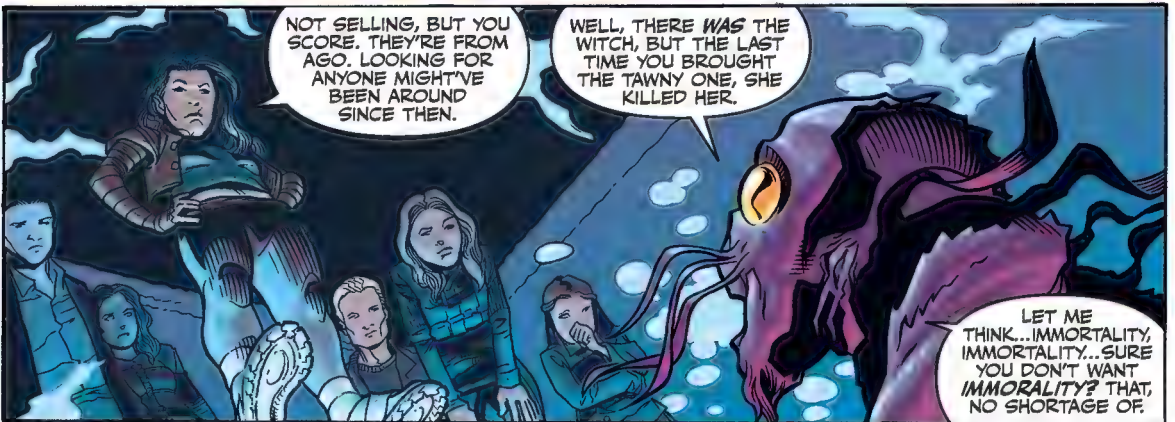
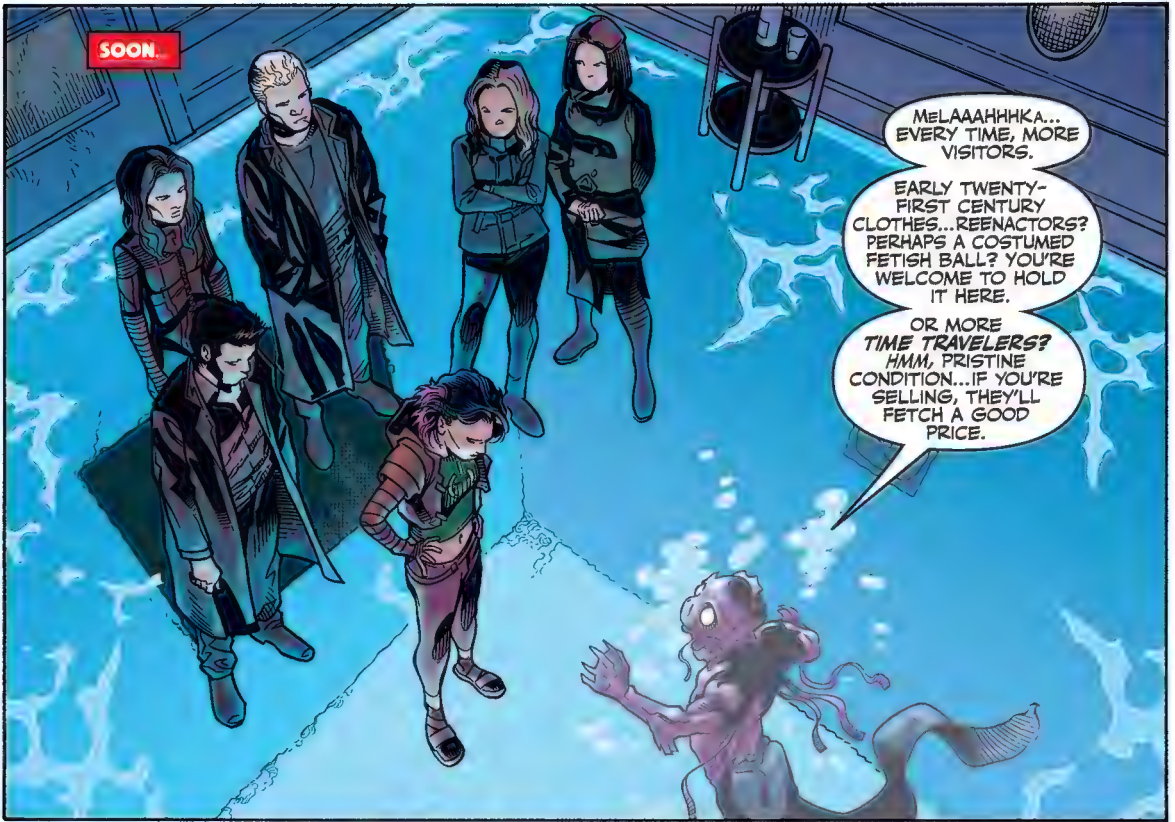


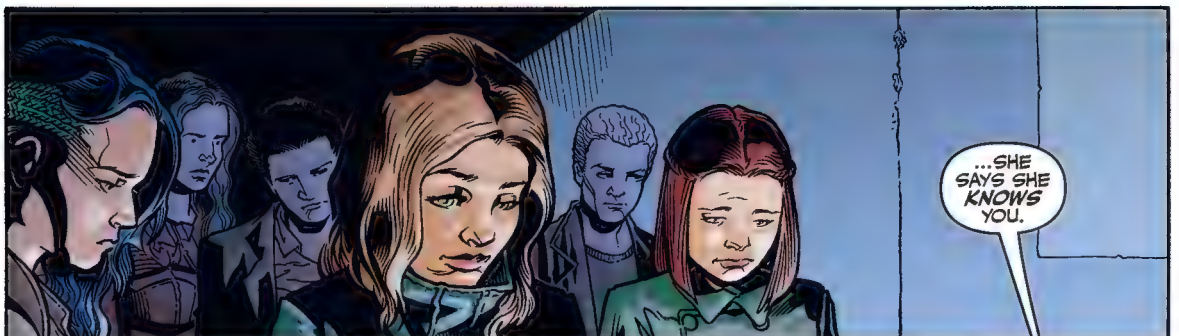
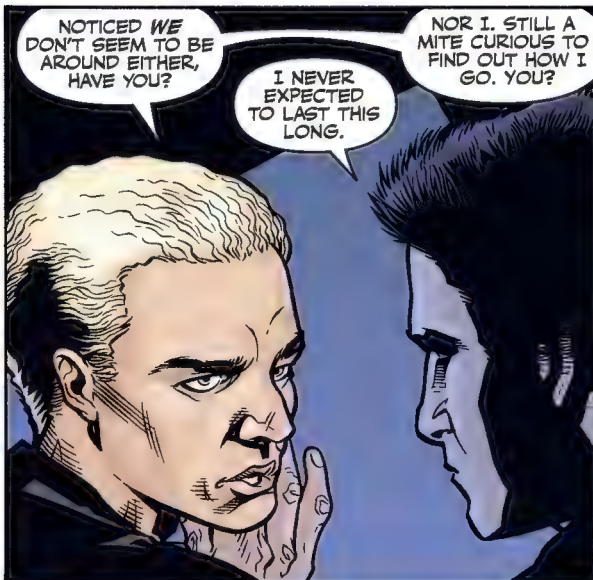


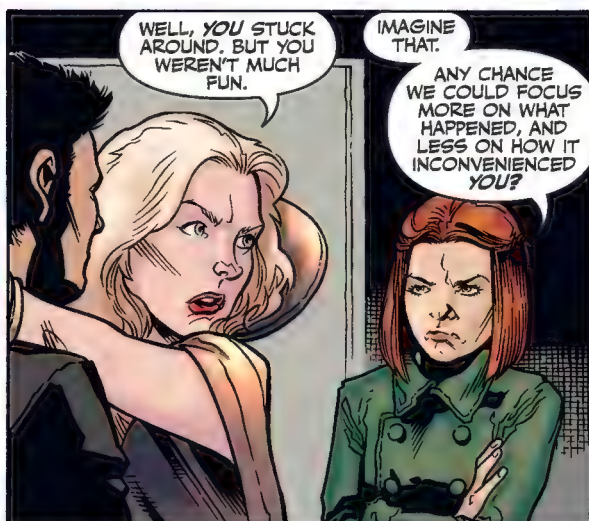
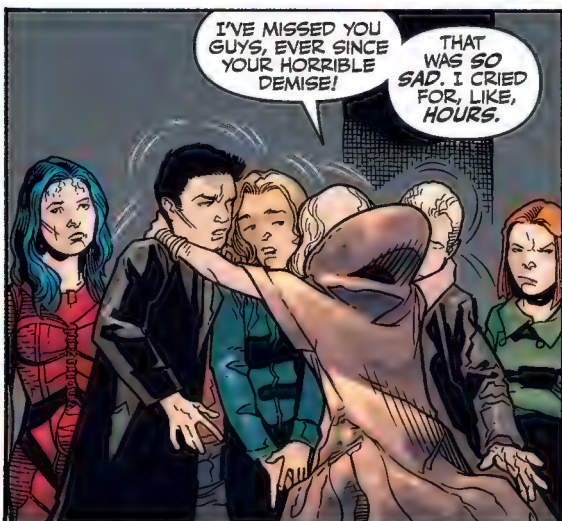
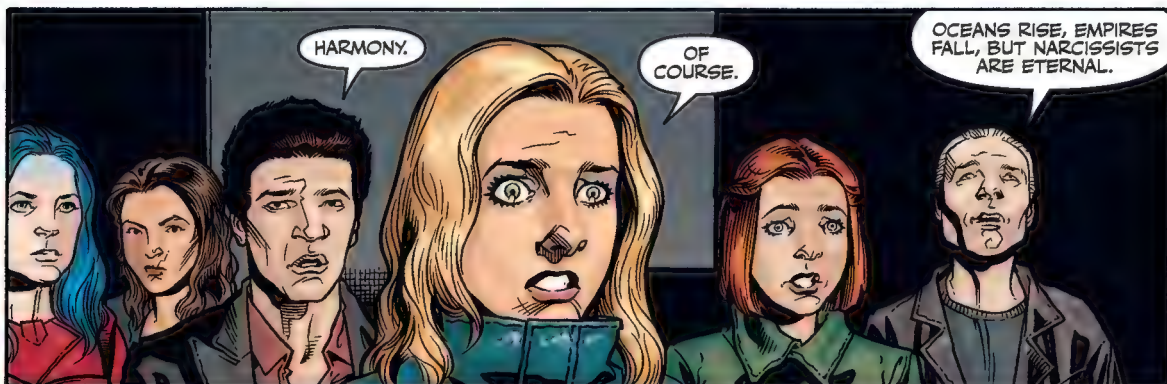
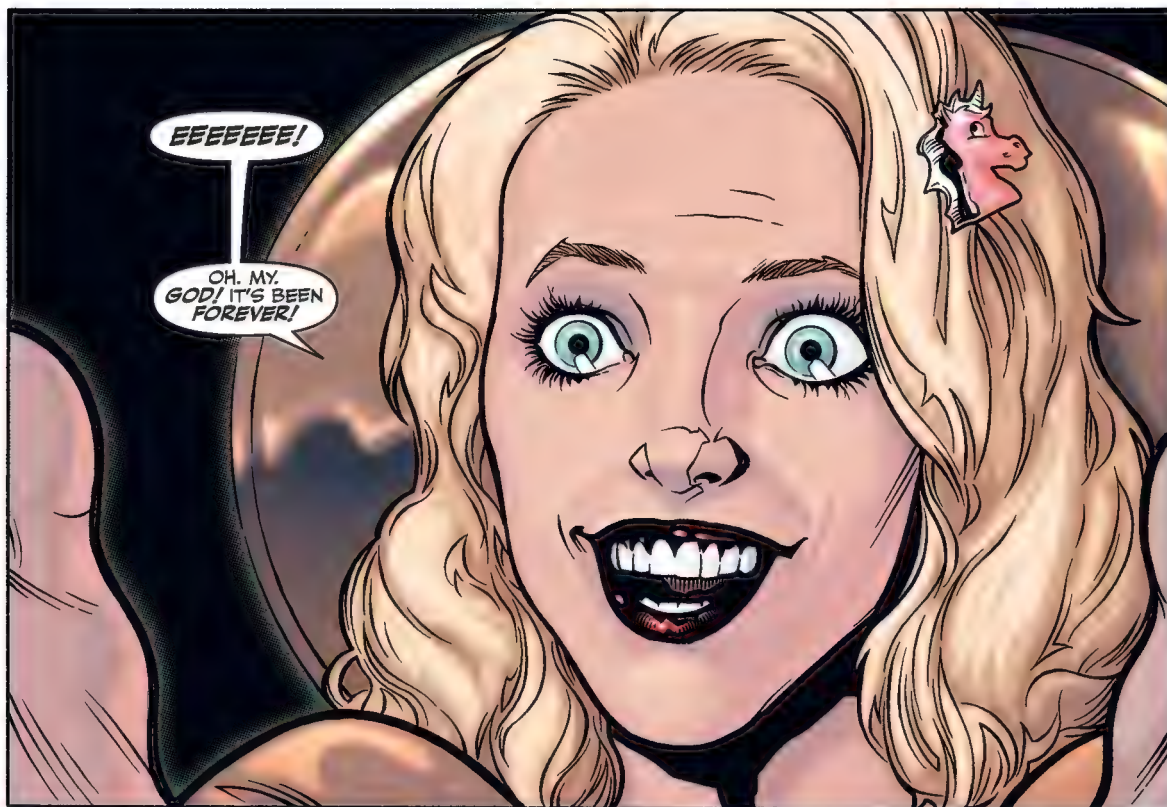
"I GUESS I LIVE A REALLY LONG TIME, GO SEMI-DARK AND ALL NUTS, AND THEN BRING BUFFY HERE TO KILL ME.

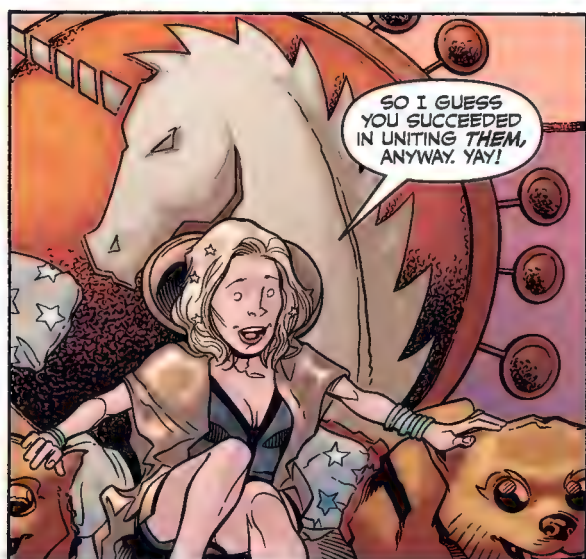
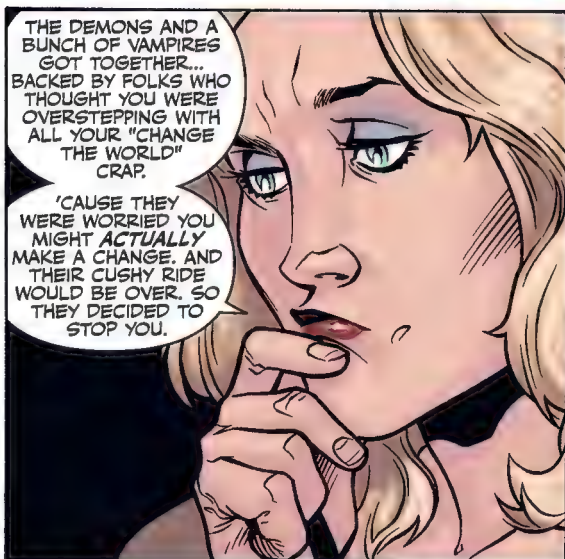
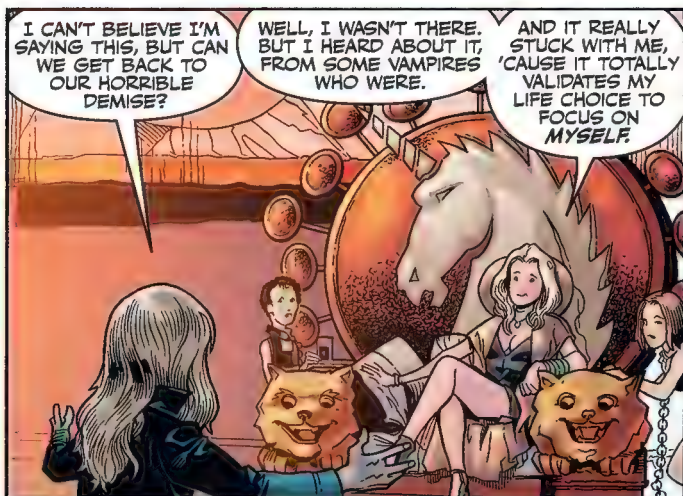
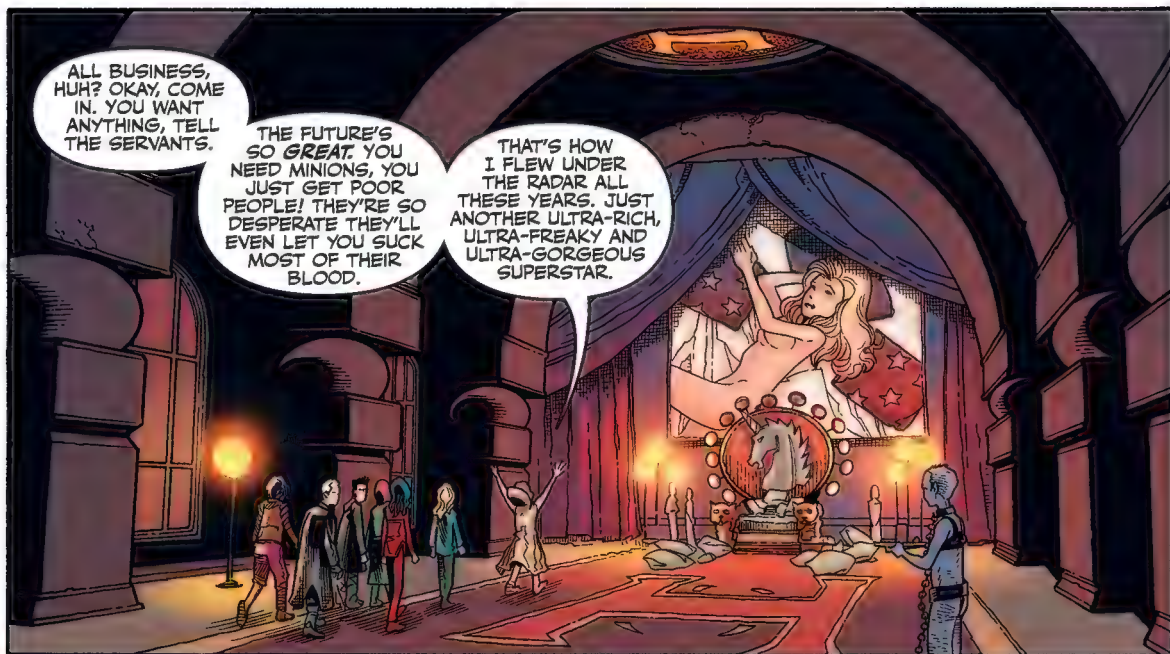
"AND I DIDN'T HAVE THE MANNERS TO SAY WHY. APPARENTLY THE ONE RULE I CLUNG TO WAS 'NO SPOILERS.'"













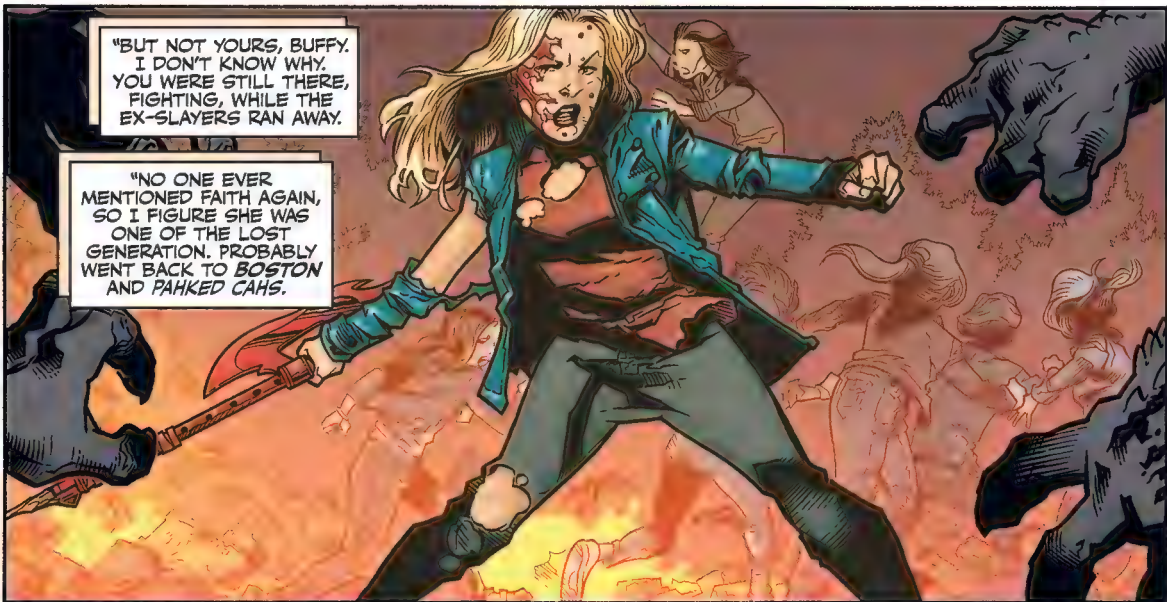
"SO THERE WAS, LIKE, A MONDO FIGHT. AT THAT NEW AGE CENTER WILLOW HAD WHERE SHE HELPED WOMEN FIND THEIR VOICE AND BLAH BLAH.

"IT WAS. HORRIBLE! BLOOD AND GUTS AND DEAD EVERYBODY ALL OVER.



"THEN IT GOT WAY WORSE FOR YOUR SIDE. SOMETHING HAPPENED THAT TOOK AWAY ALL THE SLAYERS' POWERS.

"INCLUDING THEIR MEMORIES OF BEING SLAYERS.



"BUT NOT YOURS, BUFFY. I DON'T KNOW WHY. YOU WERE STILL THERE, FIGHTING, WHILE THE EX-SLAYERS RAN AWAY.

"NO ONE EVER MENTIONED FAITH AGAIN, SO I FIGURE SHE WAS ONE OF THE LOST GENERATION. PROBABLY WENT BACK TO BOSTON AND PAHKEH CAHS.

"THE REST OF YOU GUYS WERE TOTALLY OUTNUMBERED. ANYBODY COULD SEE YOU WERE TOAST."

"SO BUFFY HAD LITTLE SIS OPEN A PORTAL TO A HELL DIMENSION."



"THEN WILLOW MADE A BIG, MAGIC HURRICANE KINDA THINGY THAT BLEW ALL THE BAD GUYS THROUGH THE PORTAL."



"BUT THEY WEREN'T GONNA STAY THERE JUST TO BE POLITE."

"BUFFY HAD TO GO, TOO, TO KEEP 'EM FROM COMING BACK THROUGH...OR FINDING A WAY TO DO IT LATER."



"THAT'S RIGHT, BUFFS. YOU WENT TO HELL. AND NEVER CAME BACK."





"YOU STAYED THERE FOREVER, FIGHTING HEINOUS MONSTERS AND DEMONS FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.

"WHICH, LET'S FACE IT, PROBABLY WAGN'T *THAT* LONG.



"SOME FOLKS SAID ANGEL AND SPIKE WENT WITH YOU. WHICH IS KINDA SWEET. I ALWAYS SAID THE THREE OF YOU SHOULD GET REAL AND JUST EMBRACE POLYAMORY.

"NOT THAT YOU WOULD'VE HAD MUCH TIME FOR AMORY IN HELL.

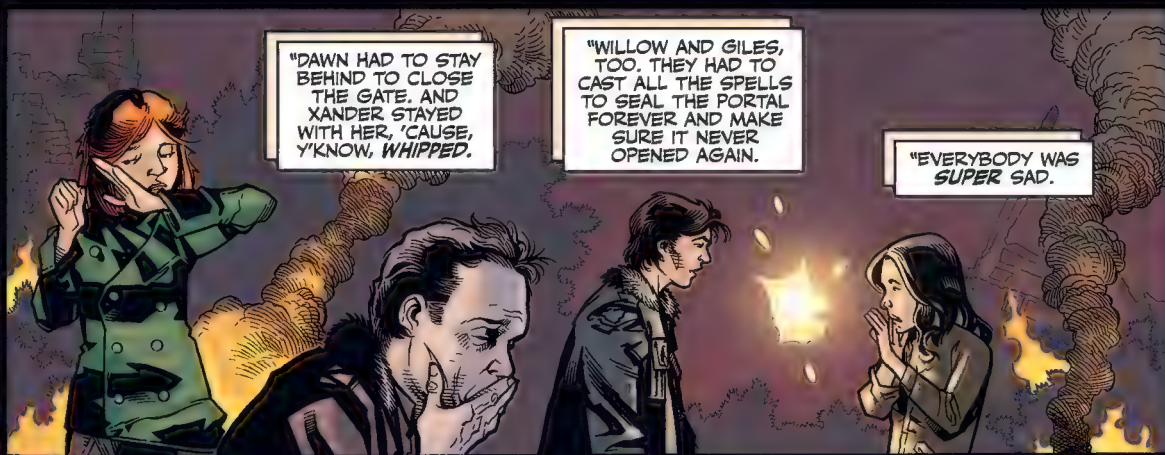


"BUT OTHERS SAY THEY DIDN'T GET THROUGH IN TIME. POOR BUFFY WAS ALL ALONE.



"IN THAT CASE, THE BOYS MUST'VE NOT BEEN ABLE TO HANDLE THE GUILT.

"CAUSE NO ONE EVER HEARD FROM CAPTAIN FOREHEAD OR BLONDIE BEAR AGAIN.



"DAWN HAD TO STAY BEHIND TO CLOSE THE GATE. AND XANDER STAYED WITH HER, 'CAUSE, Y'KNOW, WHIPPED."

"WILLOW AND GILES, TOO. THEY HAD TO CAST ALL THE SPELLS TO SEAL THE PORTAL FOREVER AND MAKE SURE IT NEVER OPENED AGAIN."

"EVERYBODY WAS SUPER SAD."



"XANDER AND DAWN HAD EACH OTHER, AT LEAST. AND SOME RUGRATS, I THINK. THEY WERE BUMMED, BUT THEY MOVED ON."

"NEVER DID ANYTHING INTERESTING AGAIN, FAR AS I KNOW."

"I MEANT TO CHECK IN ON 'EM MORE, BUT YOU KNOW HOW MORTALS ARE... YOU LOOK AWAY FOR A SECOND AND BAM! THEY'RE DEAD OF OLD AGE."



"GILES WAS ANCIENT ALREADY. NOT SURE HOW MUCH LONGER HE HUNG ON, BUT I HEAR HE SPENT WHAT TIME HE HAD MAKING SURE THAT PORTAL WAS NEVER GONNA OPEN AGAIN."



"BUT *SOMEBODY* HAD TO STICK AROUND AND KEEP WATCH, IN CASE THE MONSTERS EVER CAME BACK."

"GUESS WHICH LESBIAN WITCH THAT WAS?"



"I DON'T LIKE TO BE AROUND PEOPLE WITH NEGATIVE ENERGY, SO I COULDN'T HANG WITH YOU MUCH--SORRY, GIRLFRIEND. ANYWAY, YOU KINDA WITHDREW FROM THE WORLD."

"I MEAN, IMAGINE THE GUILT... YOU SENT YOUR BEST FRIEND TO HELL! A FATE SO MUCH WORSE THAN DEATH...THAT PROBABLY ENDED IN DEATH ANYWAY! DAMN, I'D BE ANTISOCIAL, TOO."

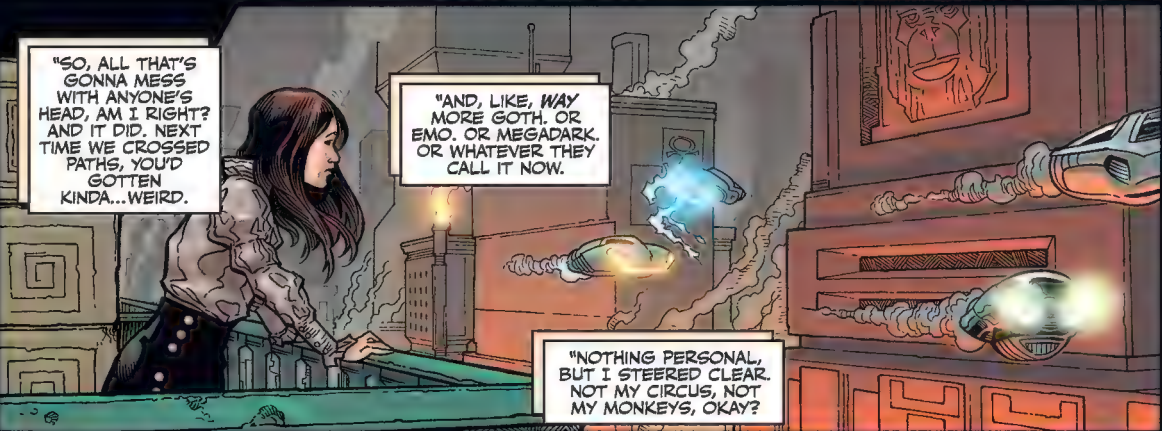


"BUT YOU HAD TO STAND GUARD. AND YOU DID. USING YOUR MAGIC TO STAY YOUNG. LIKE I ALWAYS SAY, BETTER TO LOOK GOOD THAN FEEL GOOD."

"I BET IT GOT EVEN MORE DEPRESSING WHEN EVERYONE YOU KNEW STARTED DYING AROUND YOU, HUH?"

ALEXANDER
HARRIS

DAWN
SUMMERS
HARRIS



"SO, ALL THAT'S GONNA MESS WITH ANYONE'S HEAD, AM I RIGHT? AND IT DID. NEXT TIME WE CROSSED PATHS, YOU'D GOTTEN KINDA...WEIRD."

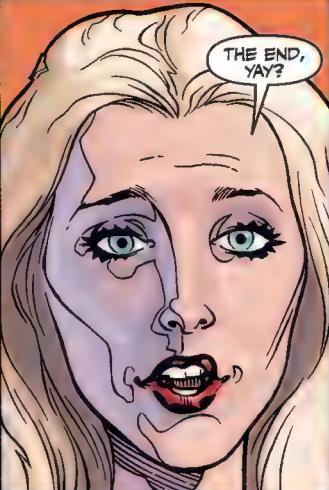
"AND, LIKE, WAY MORE GOTH. OR EMO. OR MEGADARK. OR WHATEVER THEY CALL IT NOW."

"NOTHING PERSONAL, BUT I STEERED CLEAR. NOT MY CIRCUS, NOT MY MONKEYS, OKAY?"

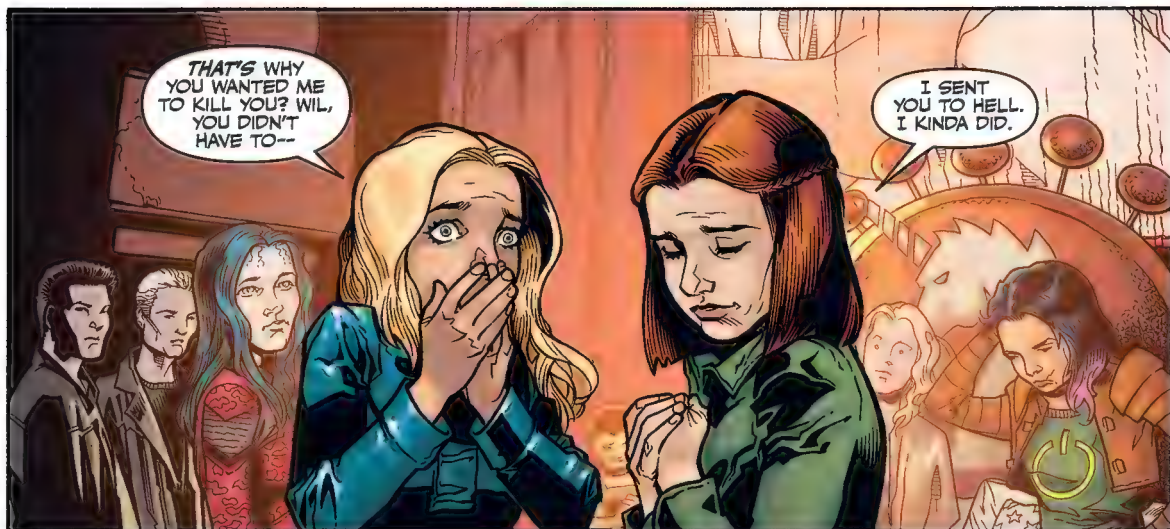


"FINALLY A NEW SLAYER CAME ALONG. YOU WEREN'T NEEDED ANY MORE. SO YOU YANKED YOUR BESTIE HERE FROM THE PAST TO KILL YOU."

"WHICH, I MEAN, AS UGLY AS THINGS HAD GOTTEN, IS KIND OF A HAPPY ENDING, SO..."



THE END, YAY?



THAT'S WHY
YOU WANTED ME
TO KILL YOU? WIL,
YOU DIDN'T
HAVE TO--

I SENT
YOU TO HELL.
I KINDA DID.



I AM NOT
ON THIS PLANE, IN
THIS ERA. I TAKE IT I
ACCOMPANIED THE
HELLBOUND?

WELL, I
NEVER HEARD
ABOUT YOU
AGAIN SO...
PROBABLY?



HARTH. MY
BROTHER. LURK
FROM NOW-
TIME.

TELL
ME ABOUT
HIM.



RIGHT, THE FUTURE-
VAMP. NO ONE SEEMED
TO KNOW WHAT
HAPPENED TO HIM.
GUESS HE COULDA
GONE TO HELL WITH
THE OTHERS.

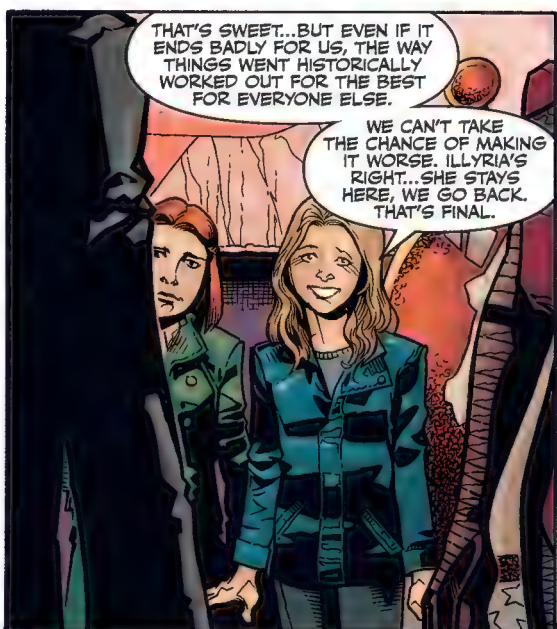
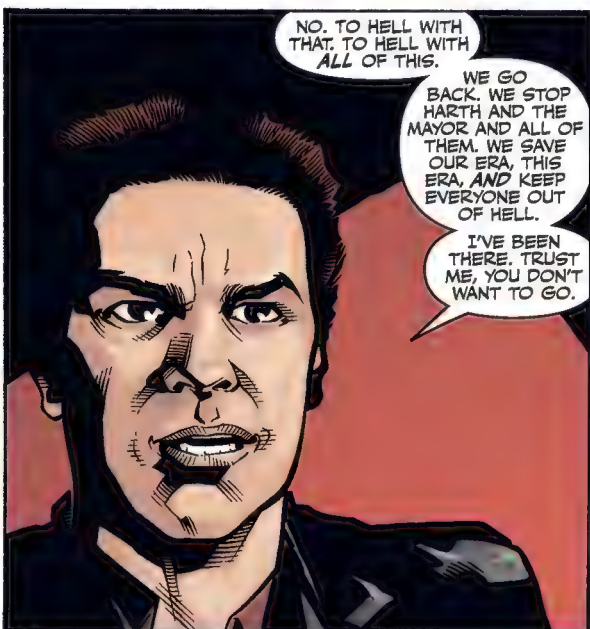
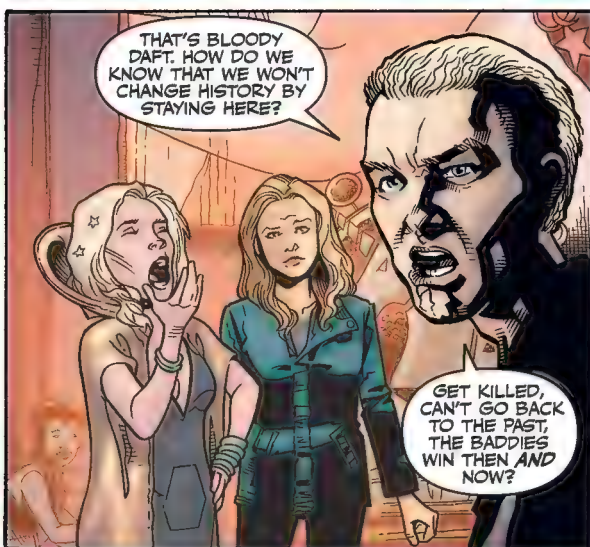
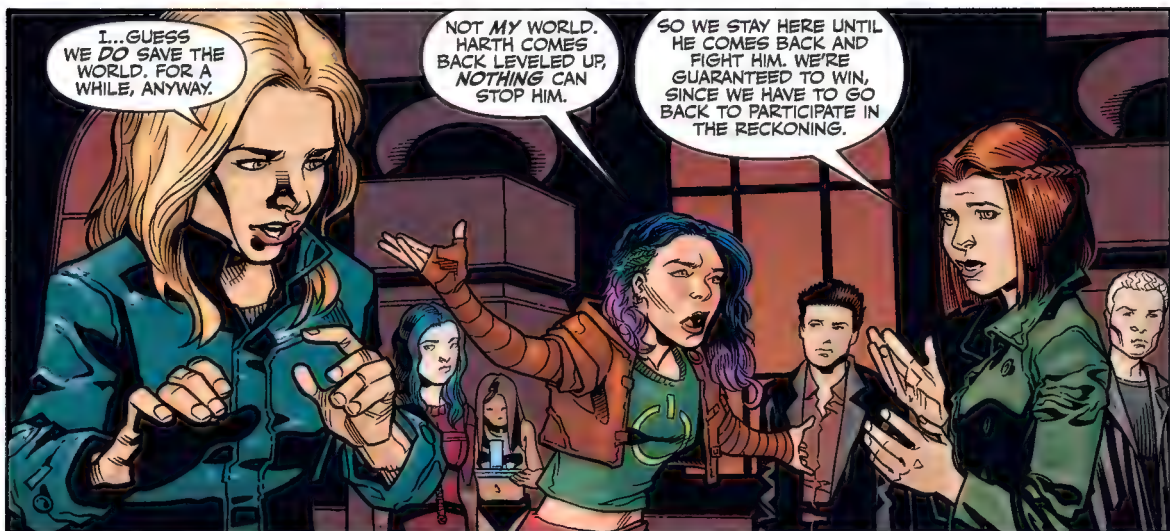
OR...HE HAD SOME
PLAN TO USE THE
RECKONING TO GET ALL
ALL-POWERFUL, COME
BACK HERE, AND TAKE
OVER. SO...MAYBE
THAT'S WHAT HE DID?
HMM...



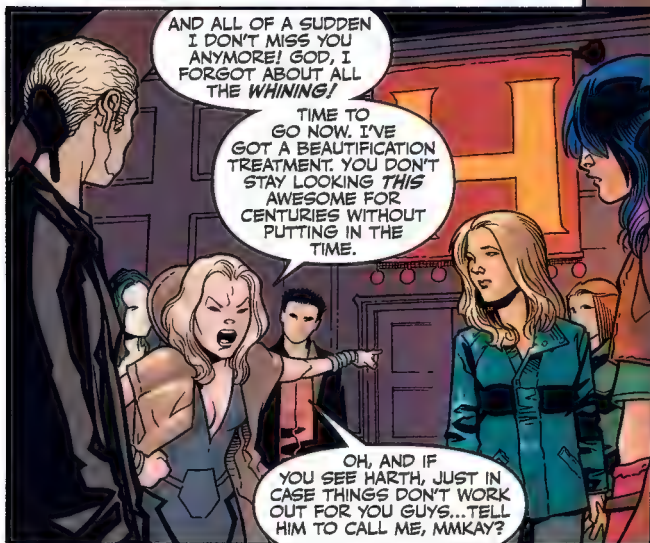
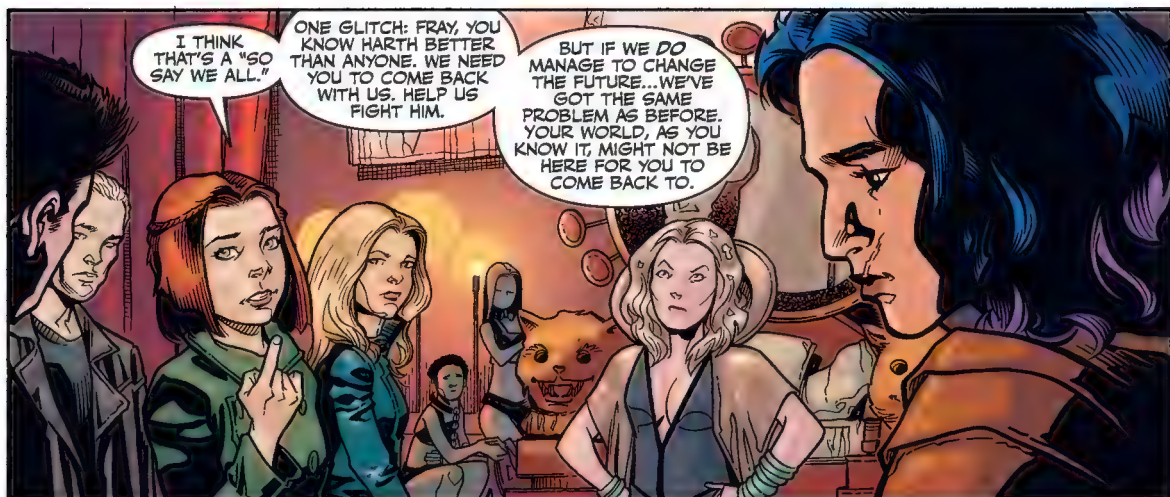
THAT MEANS
HE COULD BE
BACK ANY
MINUTE.

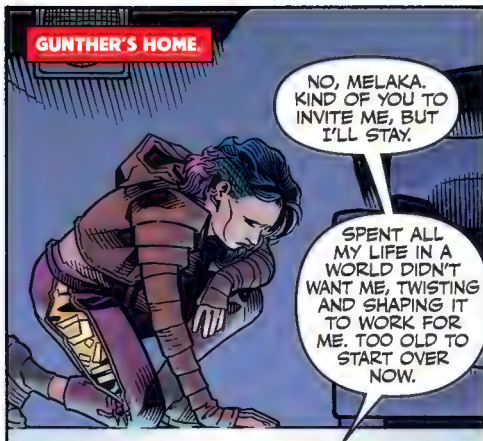
SO, DOES YOUR
BROTHER LIKE
BLONDES?

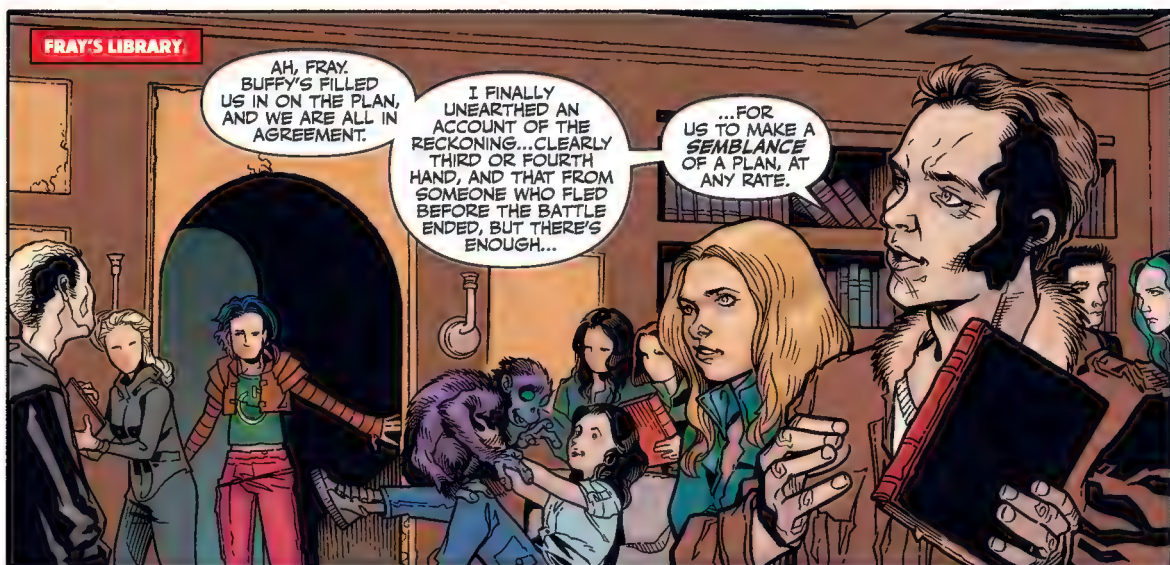
WHO AM I
KIDDING, RIGHT?
EVERYBODY LIKES
BLONDES.

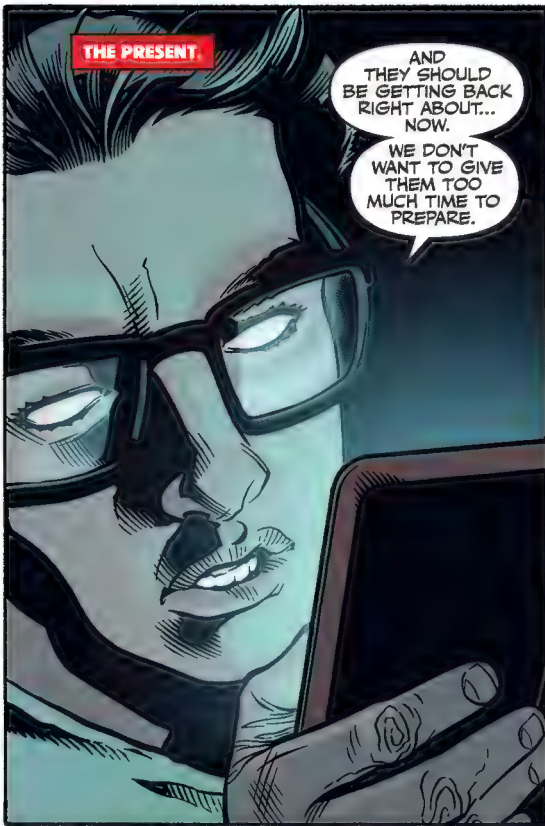




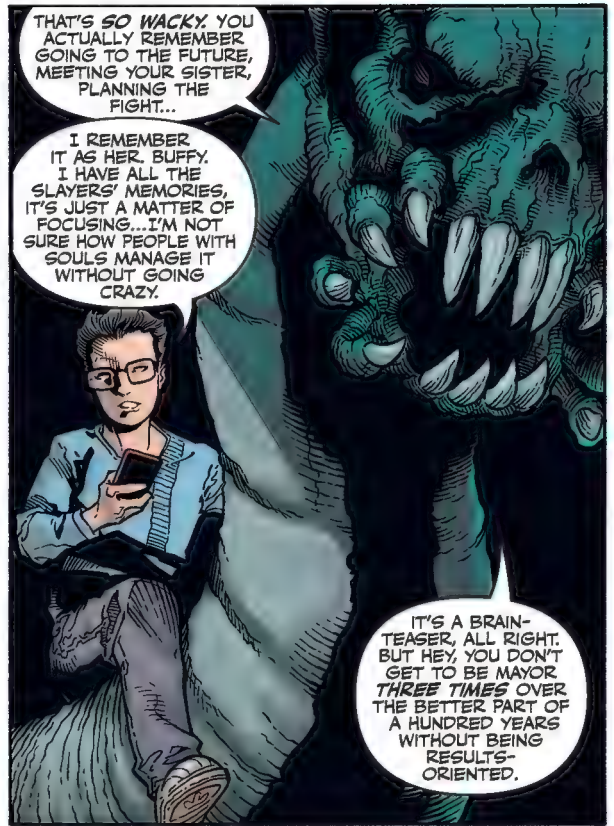








AND
THEY SHOULD
BE GETTING BACK
RIGHT ABOUT...
NOW.
WE DON'T
WANT TO GIVE
THEM TOO
MUCH TIME TO
PREPARE.



THAT'S *SO WACKY*. YOU
ACTUALLY REMEMBER
GOING TO THE FUTURE,
MEETING YOUR SISTER,
PLANNING THE
FIGHT...

I REMEMBER
IT AS HER. BUFFY.
I HAVE ALL THE
SLAYERS' MEMORIES.
IT'S JUST A MATTER OF
FOCUSING...I'M NOT
SURE HOW PEOPLE WITH
SOULS MANAGE IT
WITHOUT GOING
CRAZY.

IT'S A BRAIN-
TEASER, ALL RIGHT.
BUT HEY, YOU DON'T
GET TO BE MAYOR
THREE TIMES OVER
THE BETTER PART OF
A HUNDRED YEARS
WITHOUT BEING
RESULTS-
ORIENTED.



SO
WHADDAYA
SAY, YOUNG
FELLA?

LET'S
GET SOME
RESULTS.

EVERYBODY
TINKLE BEFORE
WE GO?





THE RECKONING
CHAPTER THREE

GEORGE
KARL



WILLOW'S EMPOWERMENT CENTER.

GREAT
NEWS! YOU'RE
SAVED!



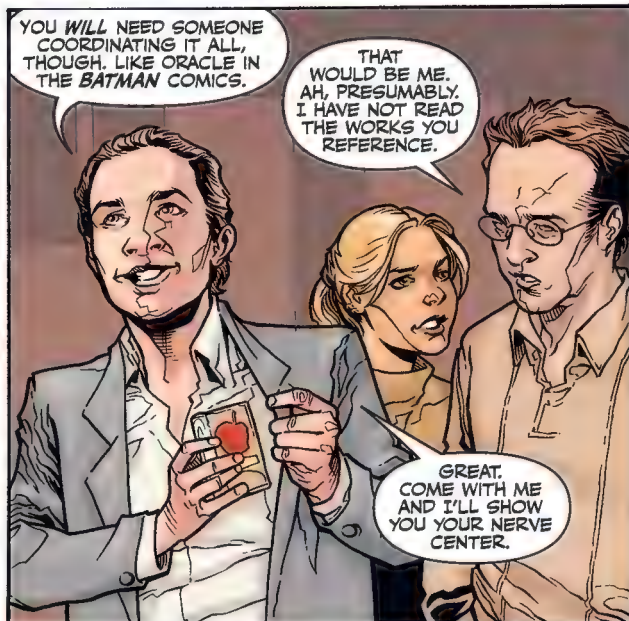
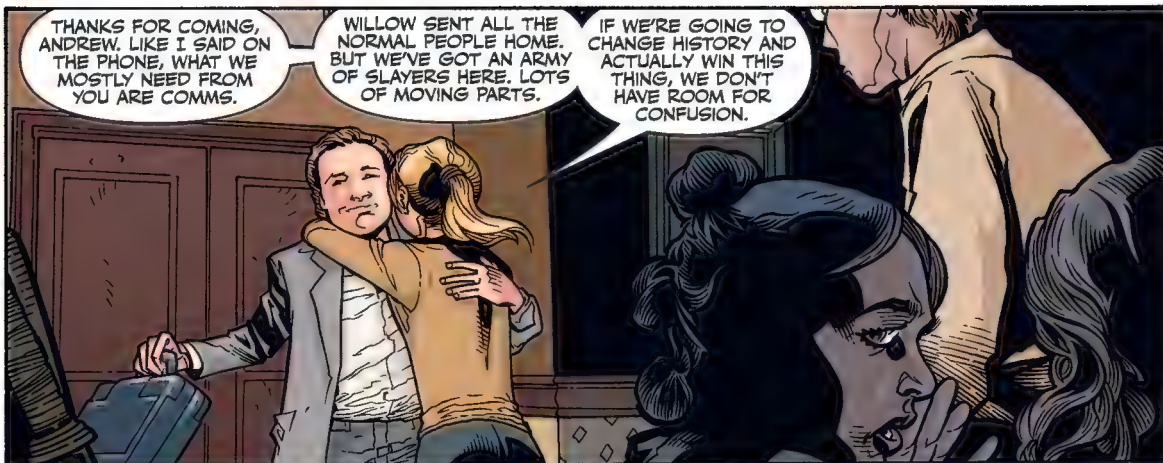
ANDREW
WELLS HAS
RETURNED!

YOU
GUYS, I'VE
BEEN CONSULTING
WITH VARIOUS WORLD
GOVERNMENTS ON
MANAGING THE
SUPERNATURAL. I'VE
MADE SO MUCH
MONEY.

AND I AM
GOING TO *HOOK
YOU UP* WITH
ALL THE SWAG
YOU NEED TO
WHOMP THESE
DEMONS...
UH...



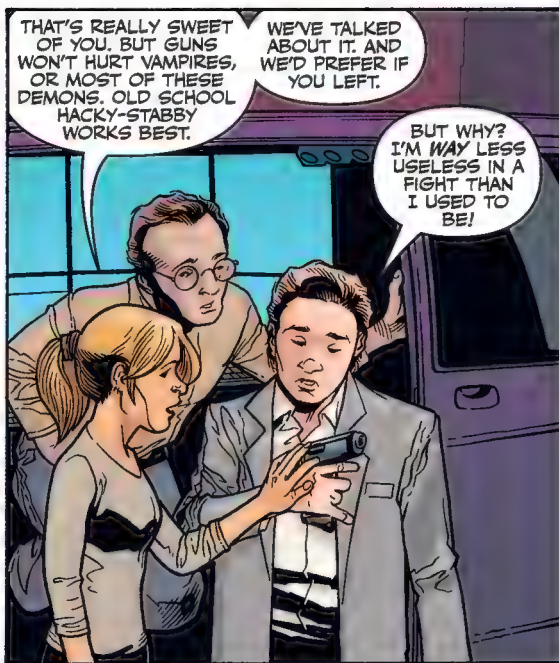
OF COURSE,
YOU SEEM TO
HAVE PREPARED
PRETTY WELL ON
YOUR OWN.





NOW
THIS TRULY IS
IMPRESSIVE.
WELL DONE,
ANDREW.

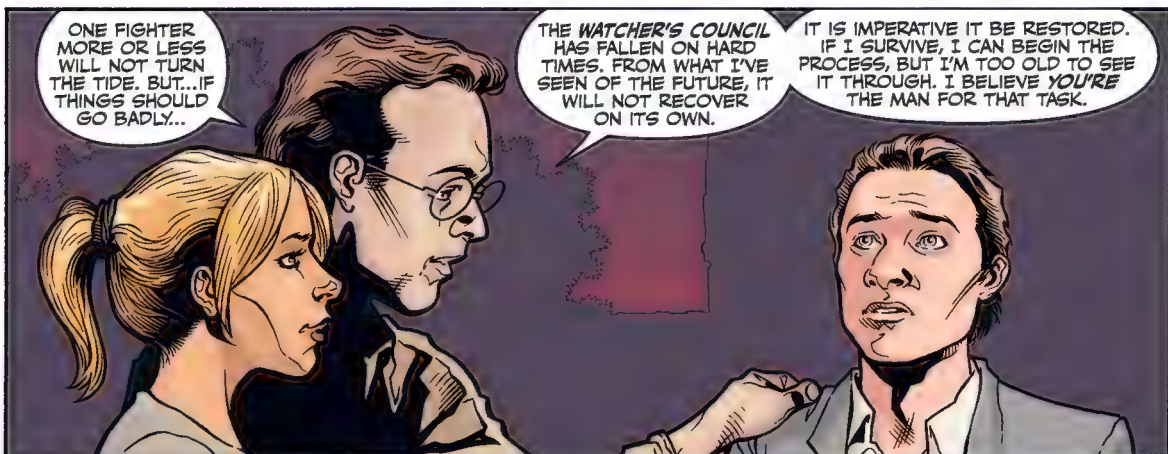
AND
I'LL FIGHT
AT YOUR SIDE,
OF COURSE. I
BROUGHT GUNS,
TOO. DON'T
WORRY, I'M
LICENSED.



THAT'S REALLY SWEET
OF YOU. BUT GUNS
WON'T HURT VAMPIRES,
OR MOST OF THESE
DEMONS. OLD SCHOOL
HACKY-STABBY
WORKS BEST.

WE'VE TALKED
ABOUT IT. AND
WE'D PREFER IF
YOU LEFT.

BUT WHY?
I'M WAY LESS
USELESS IN A
FIGHT THAN
I USED TO
BE!



ONE FIGHTER
MORE OR LESS
WILL NOT TURN
THE TIDE. BUT...IF
THINGS SHOULD
GO BADLY...

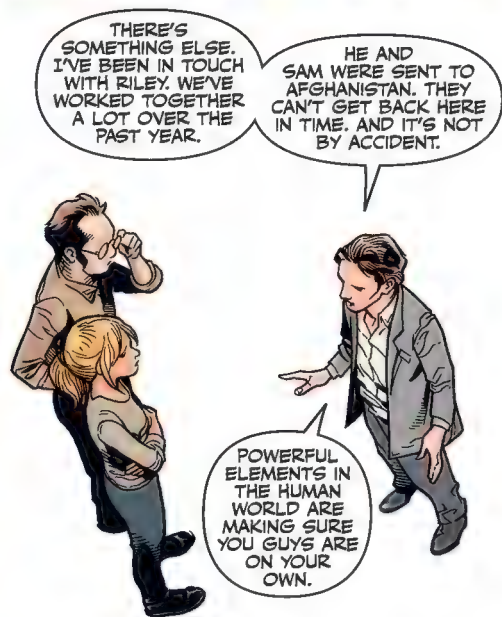
THE WATCHER'S COUNCIL
HAS FALLEN ON HARD
TIMES. FROM WHAT I'VE
SEEN OF THE FUTURE, IT
WILL NOT RECOVER
ON ITS OWN.

IT IS IMPERATIVE IT BE RESTORED.
IF I SURVIVE, I CAN BEGIN THE
PROCESS, BUT I'M TOO OLD TO SEE
IT THROUGH. I BELIEVE **YOU'RE**
THE MAN FOR THAT TASK.



I...
I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
TO SAY.

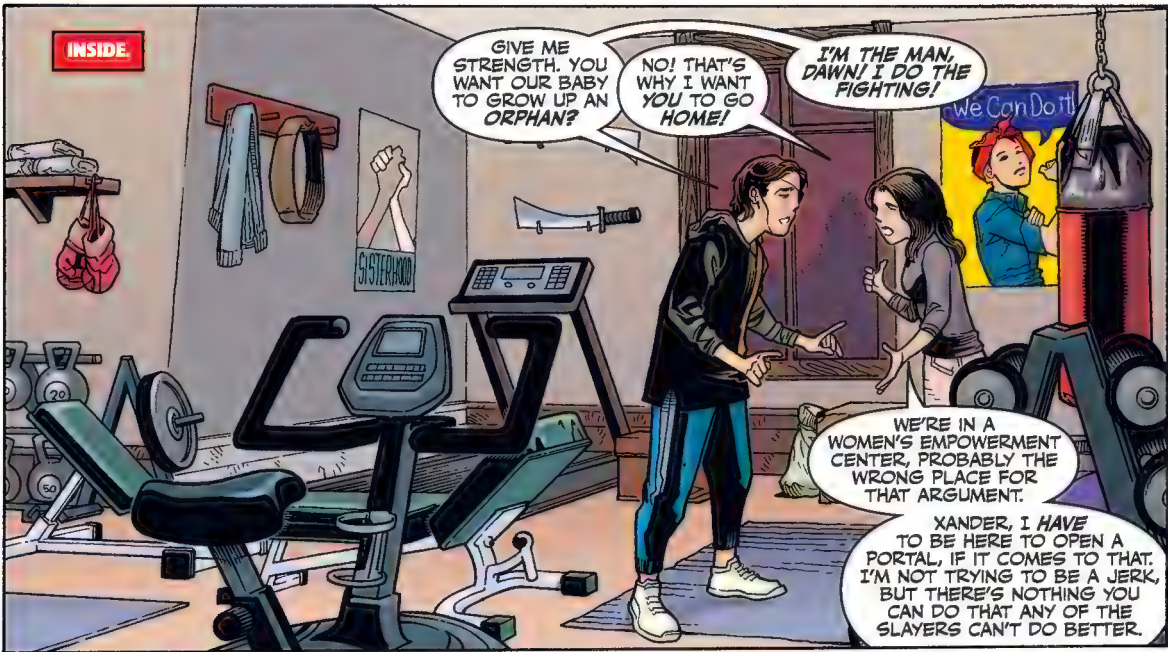
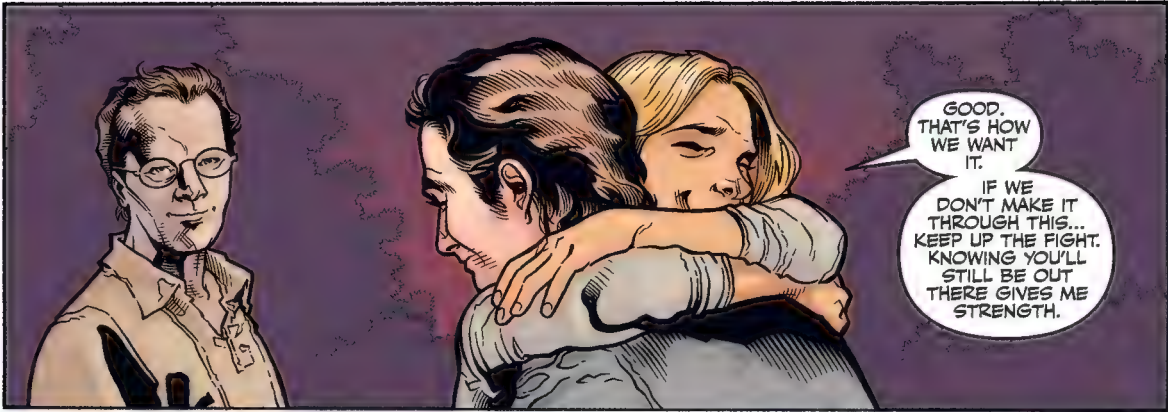
I
WON'T
LET YOU
DOWN. YOU
HAVE MY
SOLENN WORD.



THERE'S
SOMETHING ELSE.
I'VE BEEN IN TOUCH
WITH RILEY. WE'VE
WORKED TOGETHER
A LOT OVER THE
PAST YEAR.

HE AND
SAM WERE SENT TO
AFGHANISTAN. THEY
CAN'T GET BACK HERE
IN TIME. AND IT'S NOT
BY ACCIDENT.

POWERFUL
ELEMENTS IN
THE HUMAN
WORLD ARE
MAKING SURE
YOU GUYS ARE
ON YOUR
OWN.



THE ROOF.

I UNDERSTAND, ANGEL. AND I'M IN.

ARE YOU *SURE* THIS IS YOUR DECISION, FRED? I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW YOUR BODY-SHARING ARRANGEMENT WITH ILLYRIA WORKS.

I'D HATE TO THINK YOU'RE BEING... *INFLUENCED*.

I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND IT EITHER. BUT I DO KNOW THIS.

I'M OKAY WITH HER FIGHTING THIS FIGHT. AND I'M OKAY WITH HER BEING WITH YOU. SO I KNOW IT'S HOW YOU GET YOUR KICKS, BUT STOP BEATING YOURSELF UP.

I'M NOT AFRAID OF DYING. I'VE ALREADY DONE IT, AND I HAD WAY MORE TO LOSE THEN.

TO BE HONEST, EVER SINCE I CAME BACK--RESURFACED, WHATEVER--I'VE FELT KIND OF... AT SEA.

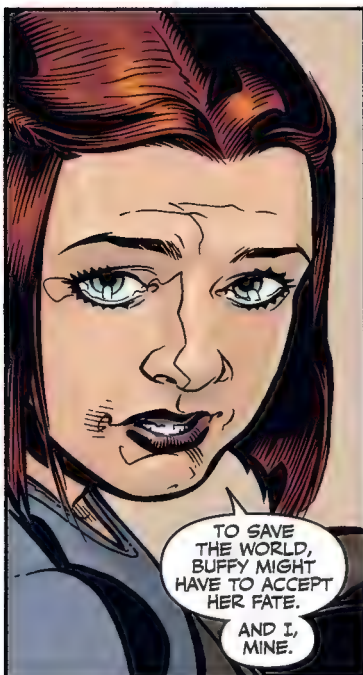
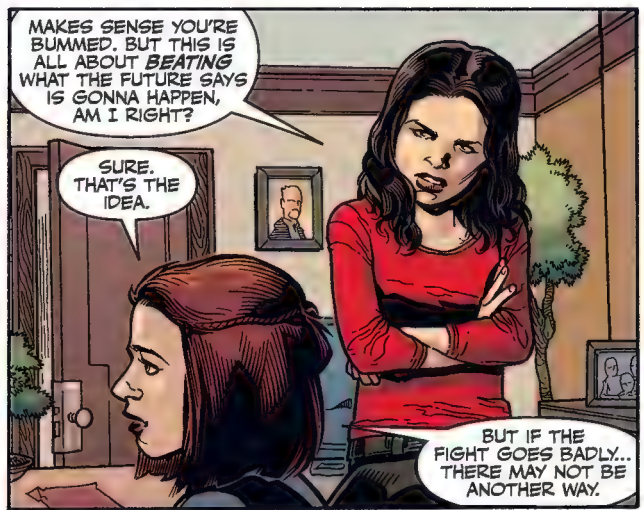
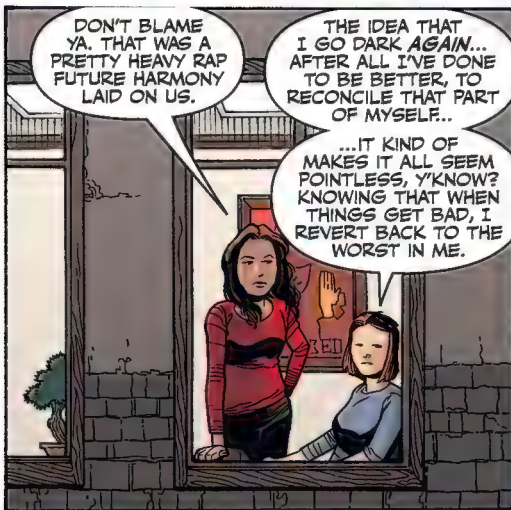
THIS MIGHT BE THE FIRST TIME I KNOW FOR SURE WHAT I'M DOING AND WHY. IT FEELS GOOD.

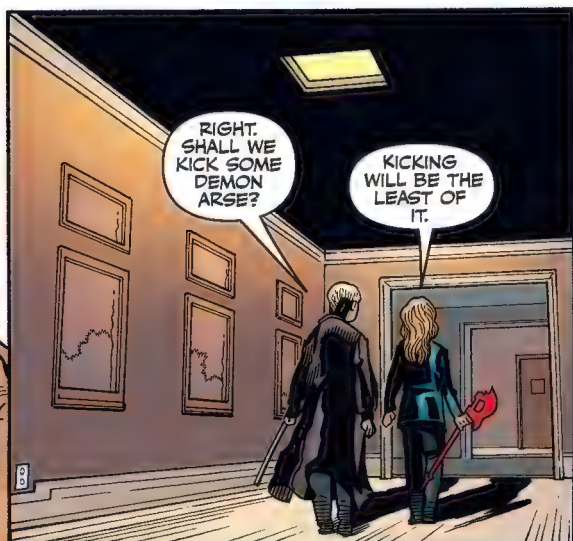
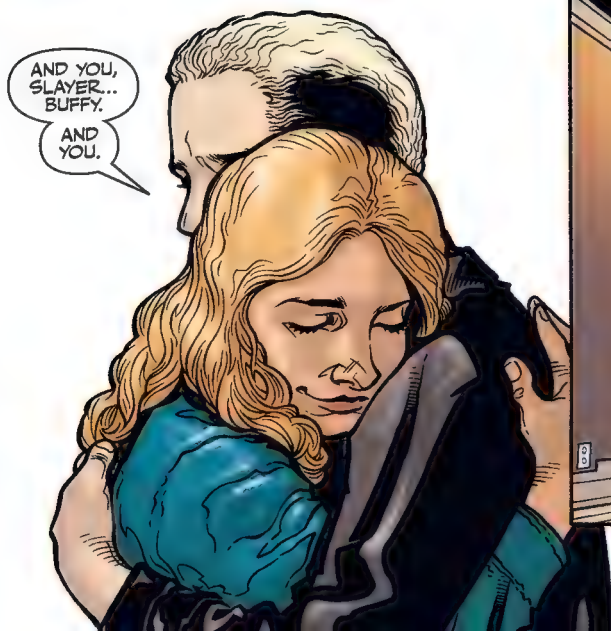
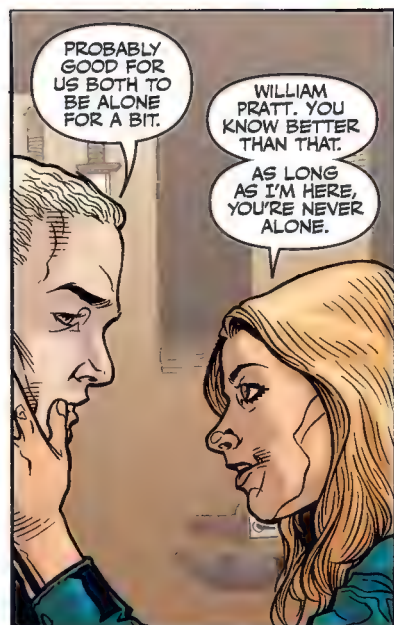
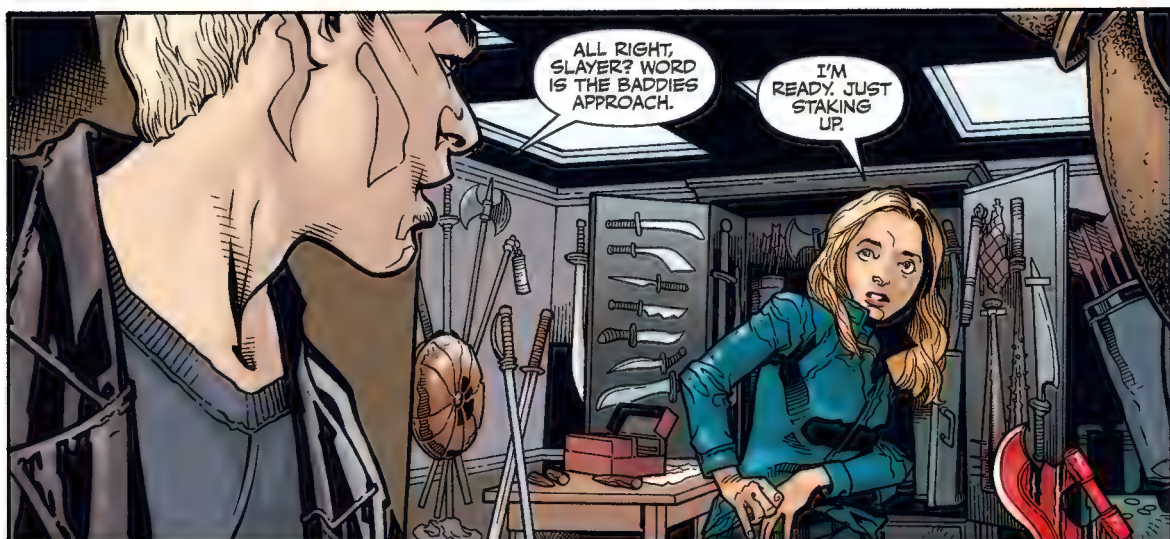
I JUST WISH I COULD'VE SAID GOODBYE TO GUNN. BUT HE WOULD'VE RUSHED RIGHT OVER HERE.

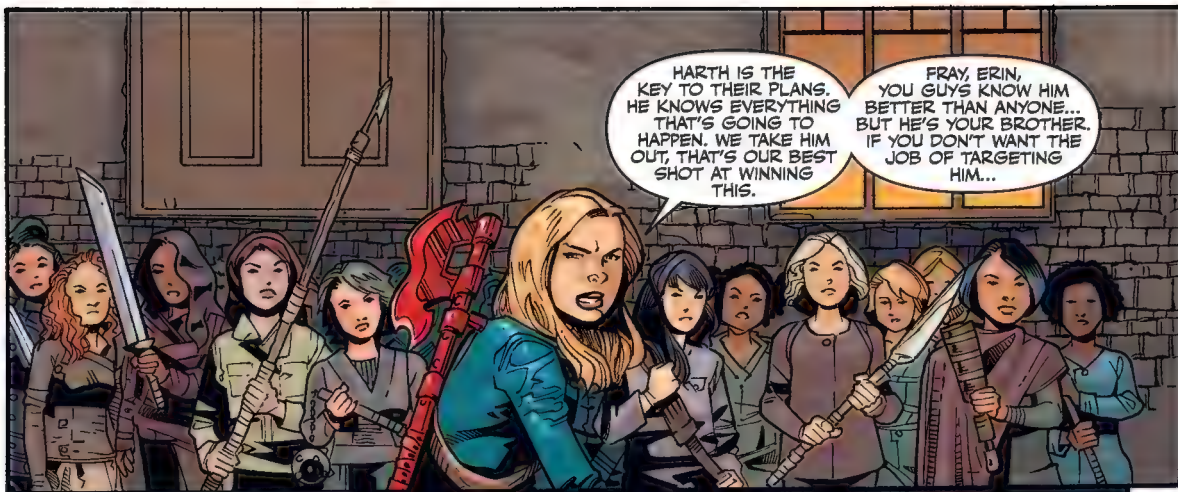
I KNOW. I RECORDED A MESSAGE FOR CONNOR... WILLOW HELPED ME SET IT UP SO HE'LL ONLY GET IT AFTER THIS IS OVER. SHE'S AMAZING WITH COMPUTERS.

IT'S CALLED A SCHEDULED EMAIL. ANYONE CAN DO IT.

REALLY?







HARTH IS THE KEY TO THEIR PLANS. HE KNOWS EVERYTHING THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN. WE TAKE HIM OUT, THAT'S OUR BEST SHOT AT WINNING THIS.

FRAY, ERIN, YOU GUYS KNOW HIM BETTER THAN ANYONE... BUT HE'S YOUR BROTHER. IF YOU DON'T WANT THE JOB OF TARGETING HIM...



NOT OUR BROTHER. A MONSTER WEARING HIS SKIN. AND MY FAULT HE'S LIKE THIS.

MY PROBLEM TO GET RIGHT. ERIN, YOU STEADY? I CAN DO IT SOLO.

I'M FINE. BUT GATES... I MEAN, SHOULD HE HAVE A GUN?

HE'S A BETTER SHOT THAN ME.



THERE THEY ARE.



THERE THEY ARE. JUST LIKE I REMEMBER.

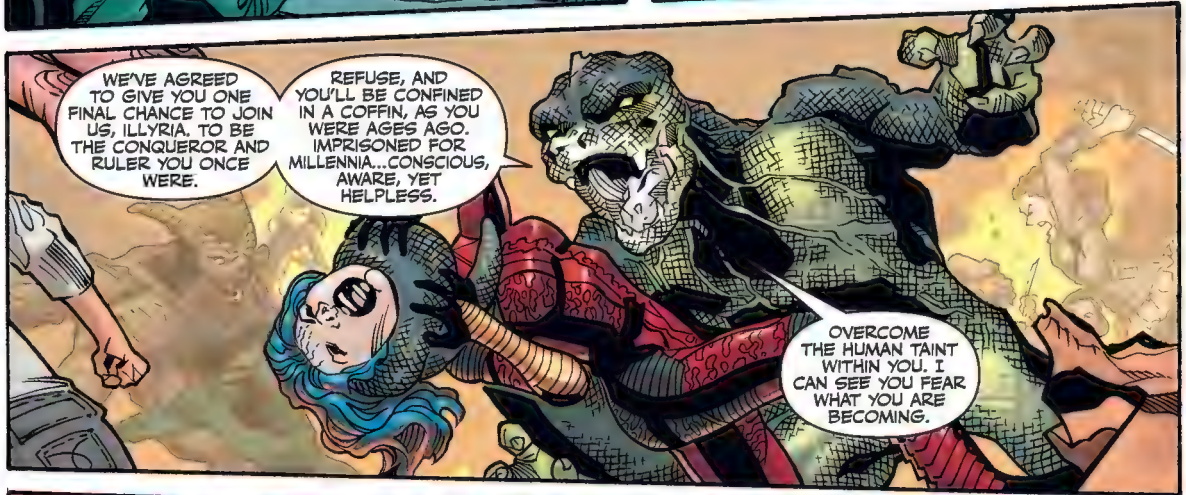
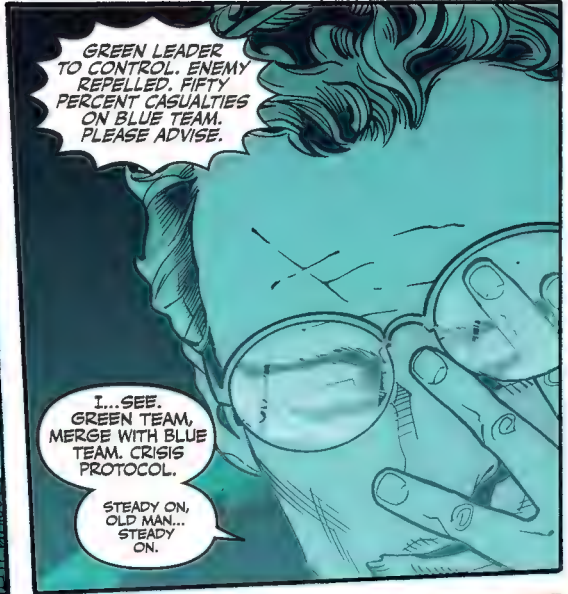
I'M ALL A-QUIVER.

SHALL WE?



SHOW 'EM WHOSE WORLD THIS IS!

YOU'VE BEEN READING MY TALKING POINTS.
WE DEMONS WERE HERE FIRST, MISSY...AND WE'LL BE HERE LAST.



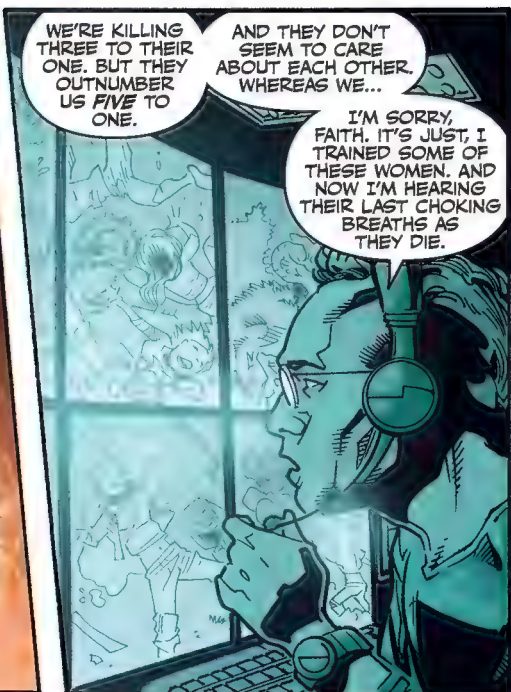






YO, G.,
HOW'S IT
LOOK?

THINGS...
COULD BE
BETTER.



WE'RE KILLING
THREE TO THEIR
ONE. BUT THEY
OUTNUMBER
US FIVE TO
ONE.

AND THEY DON'T
SEEM TO CARE
ABOUT EACH OTHER.
WHEREAS WE...

I'M SORRY,
FAITH. IT'S JUST, I
TRAINED SOME OF
THESE WOMEN. AND
NOW I'M HEARING
THEIR LAST CHOKING
BREATHS AS
THEY DIE.



I'M
BEGINNING TO
WONDER IF LOSING
THEIR POWERS AND
MEMORIES WOULDN'T
BE THE PREFERRED
OUTCOME.

I
HEAR
YA...



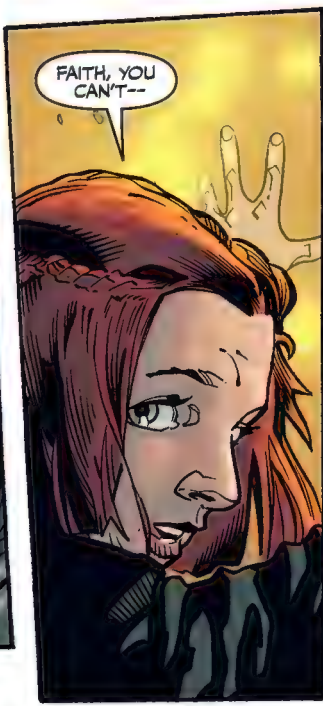
YO, WIL! HUDDLE
UP. I GOT A
PLAN.

AT THIS POINT,
I'M OPEN TO
ANYTHING.

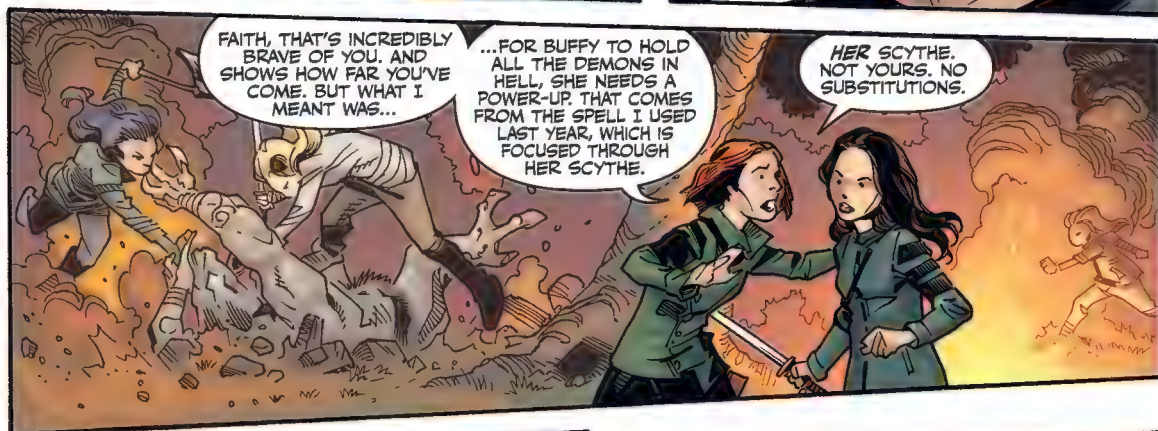


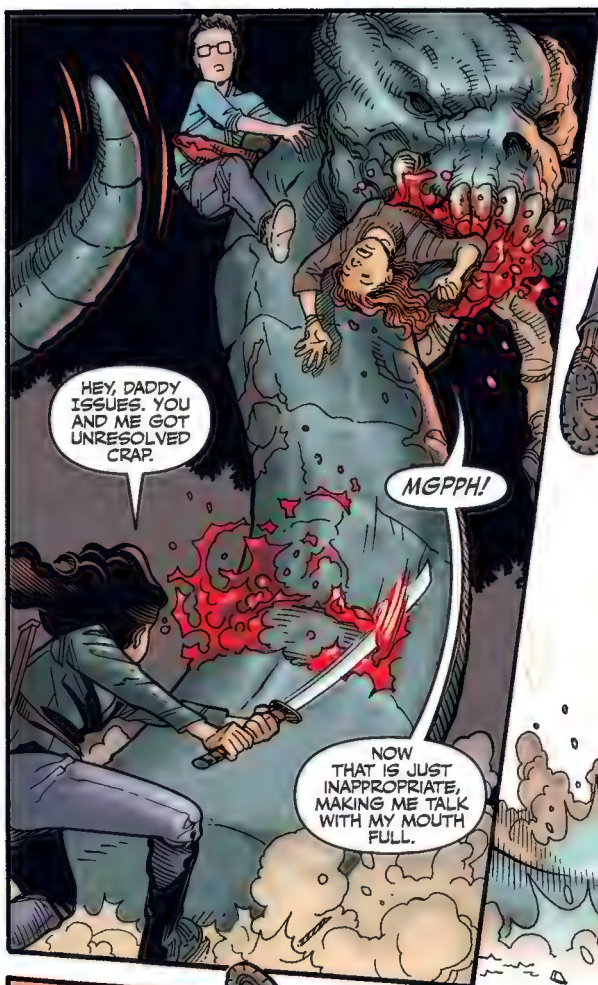
THE THING WITH B...
WHERE THE DEMONS
ALL GO TO HELL, AND
SHE GOES WITH
'EM. TO KEEP 'EM
THERE.

LET'S DO
THAT. BUT WITH
ME INSTEAD
OF HER.



FAITH, YOU
CAN'T--





HEY, DADDY
ISSUES. YOU
AND ME GOT
UNRESOLVED
CRAP.

MGPPH!

NOW
THAT IS JUST
INAPPROPRIATE,
MAKING ME TALK
WITH MY MOUTH
FULL.



OUR
AGREEMENT IS
OUR BUSINESS,
MISS NOSY
PARKER.

YOU LOST
THE RIGHT TO
ANY INPUT WHEN
YOU CHOSE
YOUR HOODLUM
FRIENDS OVER
ME.



HOW'S THIS FOR
INAPPROPRIATE?
NERD DRACULA
IS USING
YOU.



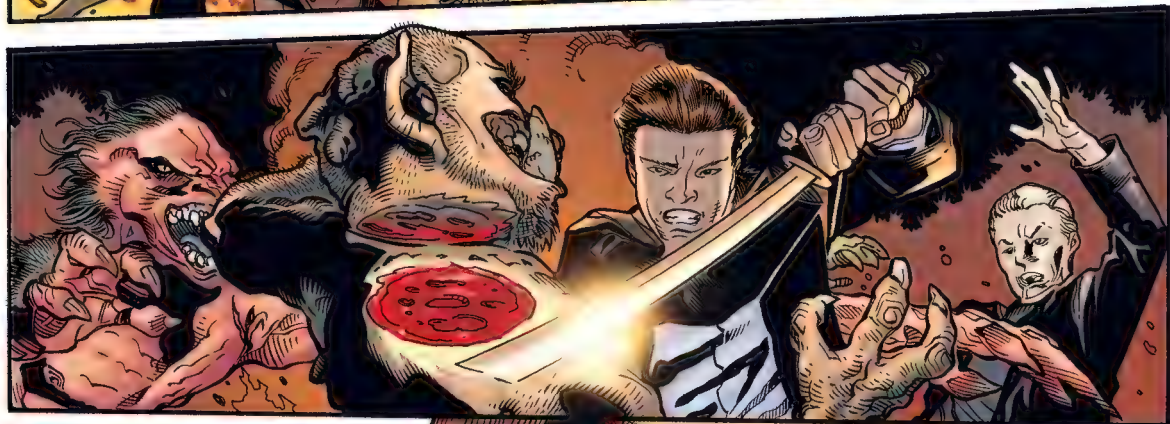
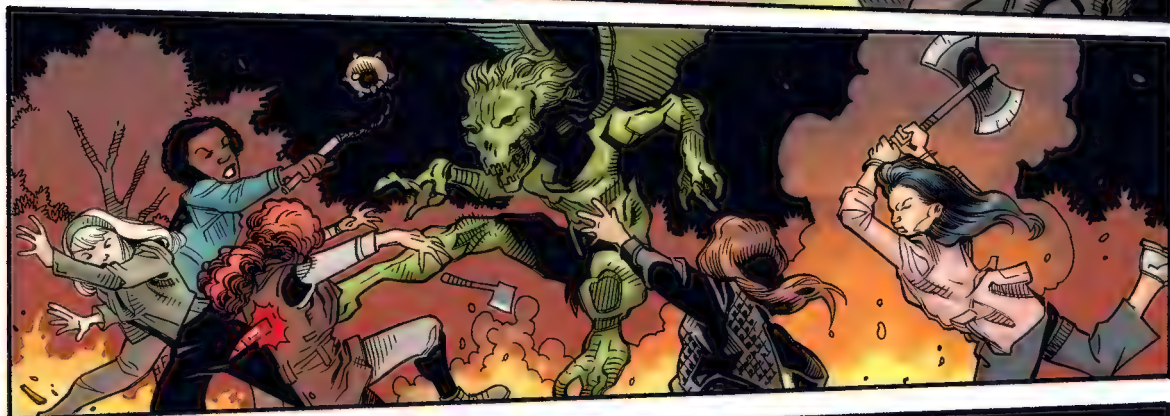
YOU KEEP
FOLLOWING HIS
ORDERS, THIS
ENDS WITH YOU
ALL GETTING
BANISHED.

HE GETS
SOME KINDA
LEVEL-UP AND
GOES BACK TO
HIS TIME. BUT
YOU GO TO
HELL.



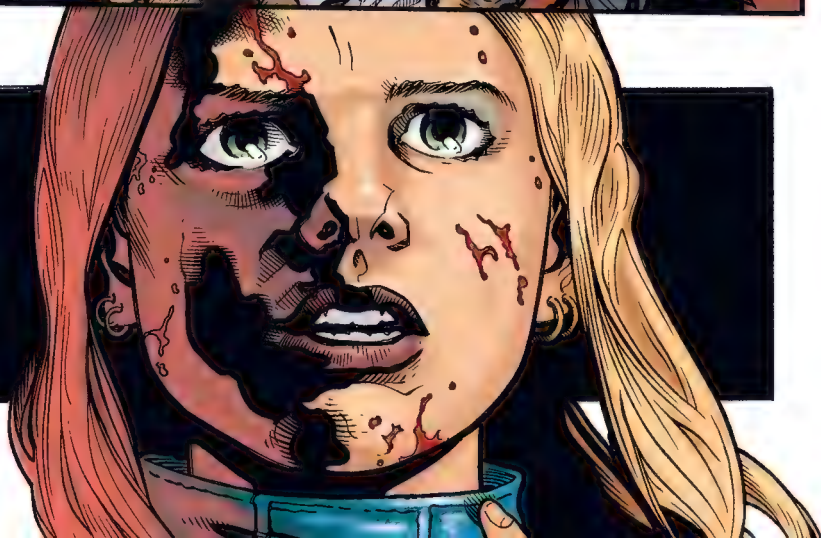
OKAY, FINE.
YOU WANNA GO
TO HELL SO
BAD?

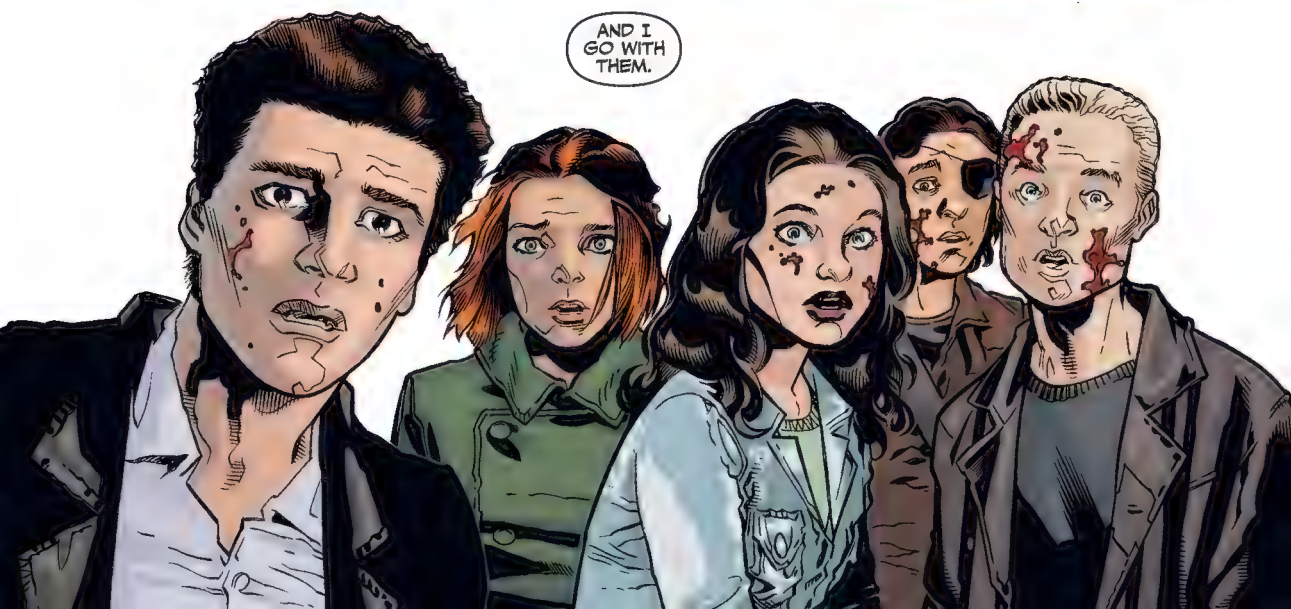
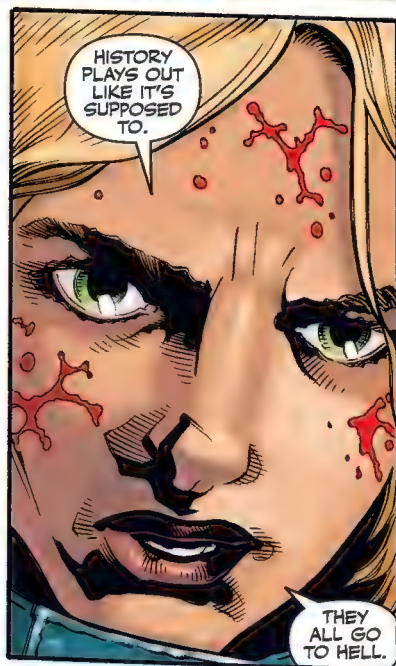
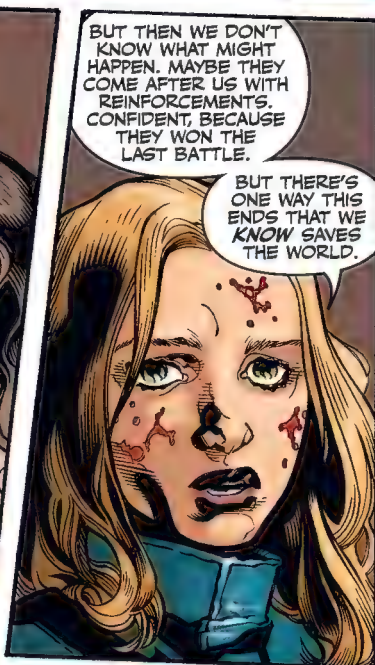
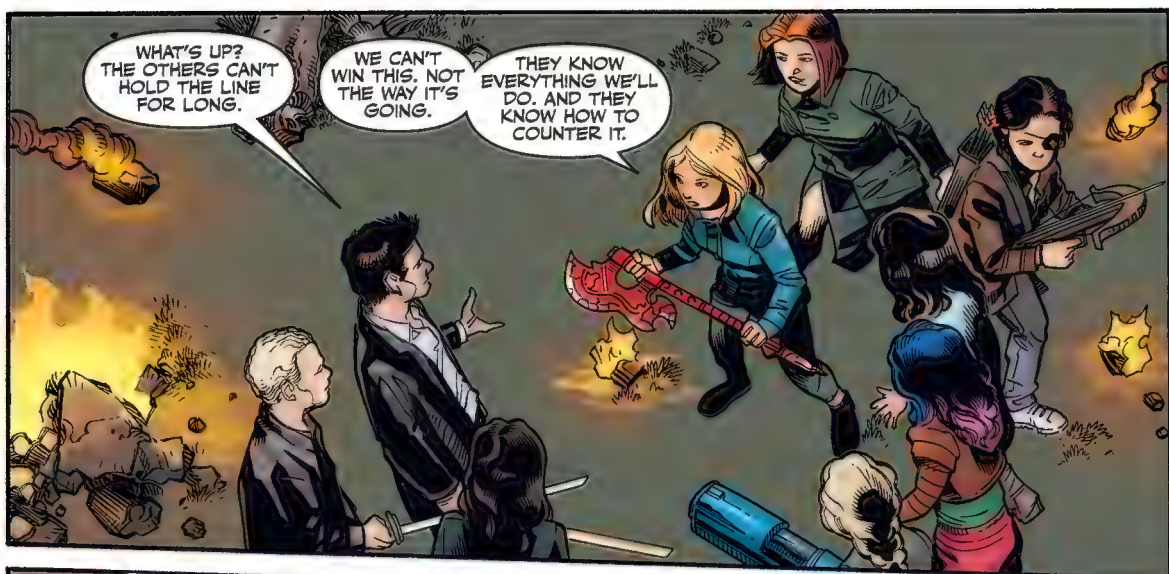
I'LL
SEND YOU
THERE IN
PIECES.



GILES, TELL
THE CORE TEAM
TO FORM UP
ON ME.

IT'S
IMPORTANT.

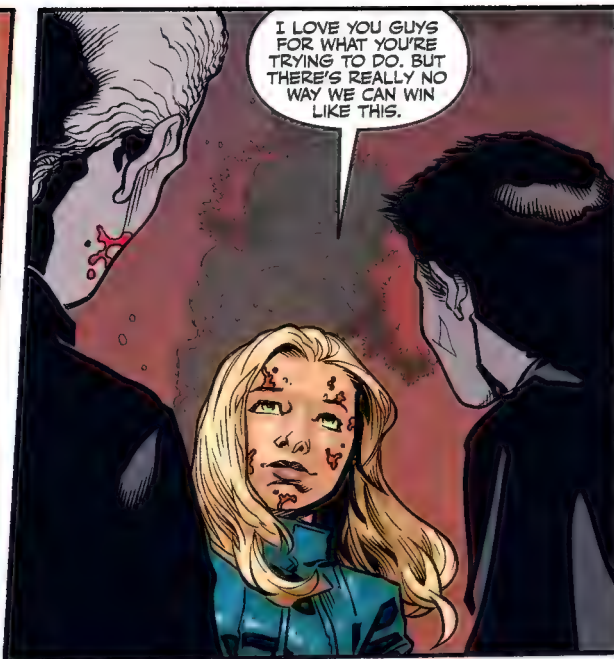




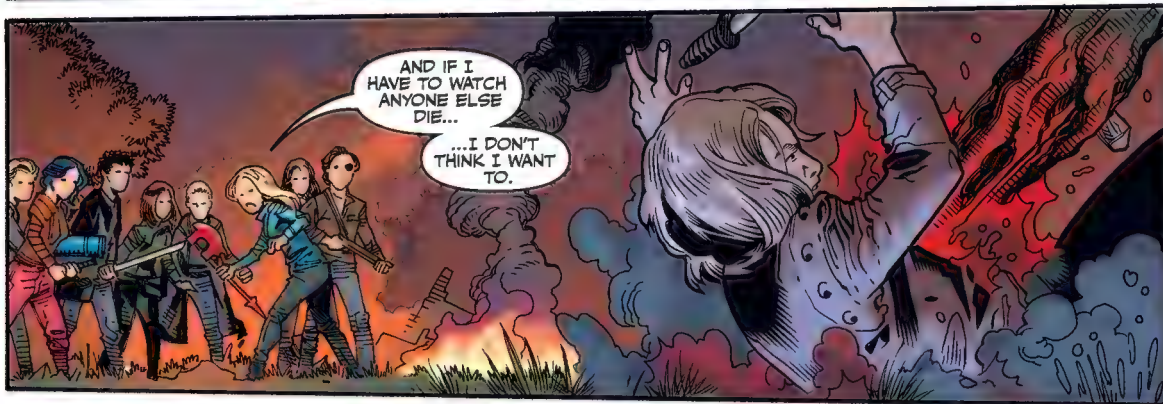


NO! WE STILL HAVE A CHANCE!

FOR ONCE HE'S RIGHT. AIN'T OVER YET.

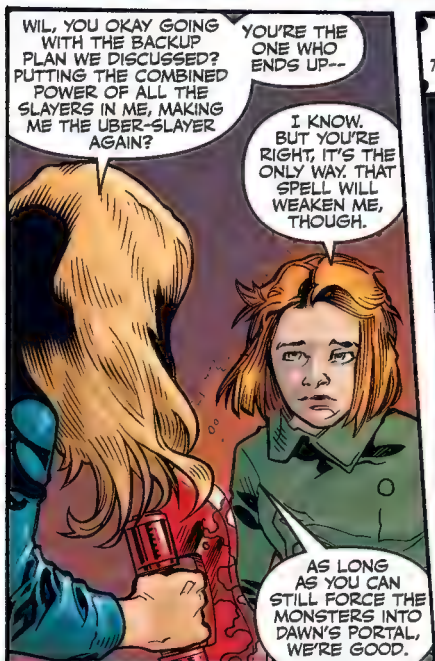


I LOVE YOU GUYS FOR WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO DO. BUT THERE'S REALLY NO WAY WE CAN WIN LIKE THIS.



AND IF I HAVE TO WATCH ANYONE ELSE DIE...

...I DON'T THINK I WANT TO.

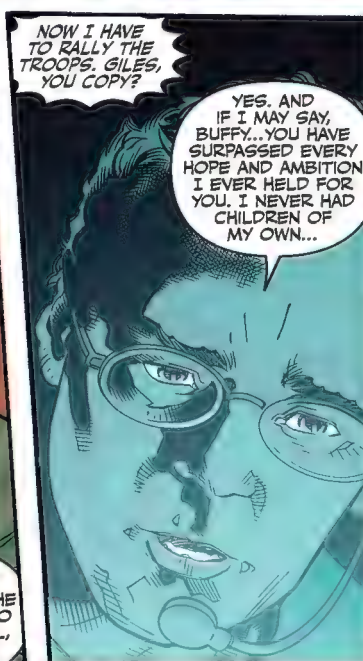


WIL, YOU OKAY GOING WITH THE BACKUP PLAN WE DISCUSSED? PUTTING THE COMBINED POWER OF ALL THE SLAYERS IN ME, MAKING ME THE UBER-SLAYER AGAIN?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO ENDS UP--

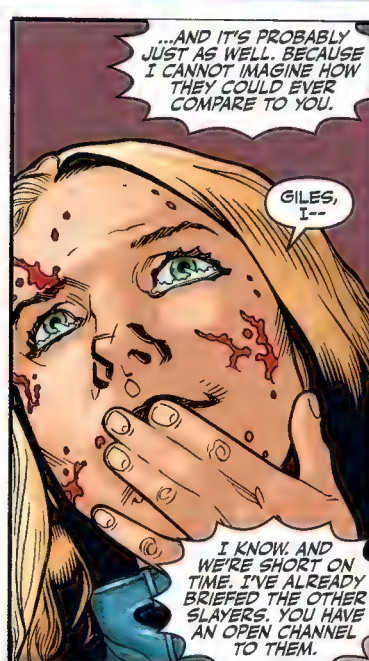
I KNOW. BUT YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S THE ONLY WAY. THAT SPELL WILL WEAKEN ME, THOUGH.

AS LONG AS YOU CAN STILL FORCE THE MONSTERS INTO DAWN'S PORTAL, WE'RE GOOD.



NOW I HAVE TO RALLY THE TROOPS. GILES, YOU COPY?

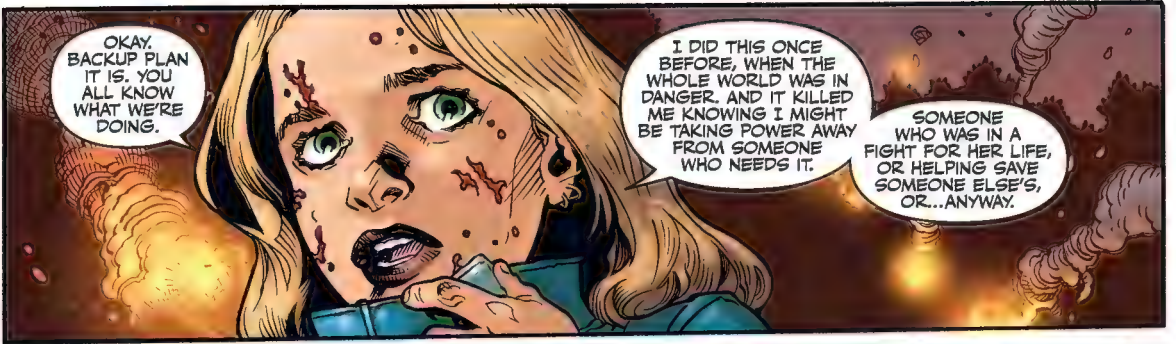
YES. AND IF I MAY SAY, BUFFY... YOU HAVE SURPASSED EVERY HOPE AND AMBITION I EVER HELD FOR YOU. I NEVER HAD CHILDREN OF MY OWN...



...AND IT'S PROBABLY JUST AS WELL. BECAUSE I CANNOT IMAGINE HOW THEY COULD EVER COMPARE TO YOU.

GILES, I--

I KNOW. AND WE'RE SHORT ON TIME. I'VE ALREADY BRIEFED THE OTHER SLAYERS. YOU HAVE AN OPEN CHANNEL TO THEM.



OKAY. BACKUP PLAN IT IS. YOU ALL KNOW WHAT WE'RE DOING.

I DID THIS ONCE BEFORE, WHEN THE WHOLE WORLD WAS IN DANGER. AND IT KILLED ME KNOWING I MIGHT BE TAKING POWER AWAY FROM SOMEONE WHO NEEDS IT.

SOMEONE WHO WAS IN A FIGHT FOR HER LIFE, OR HELPING SAVE SOMEONE ELSE'S, OR...ANYWAY.

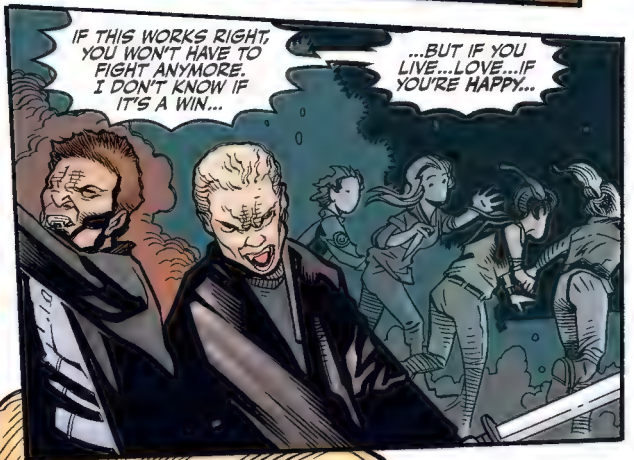


THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN THIS TIME.



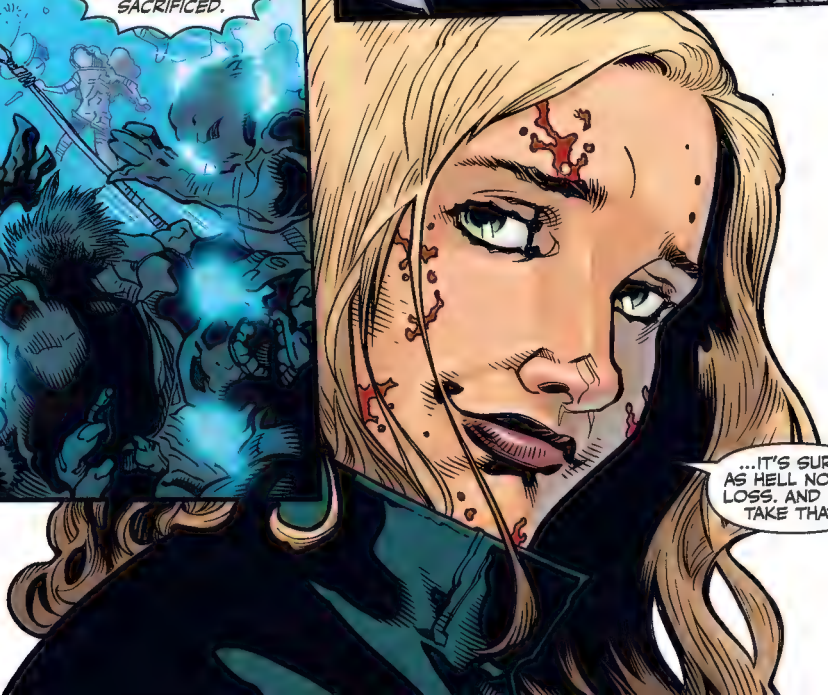
ALL OF YOU, PULL BACK. THE OTHERS'LL COVER YOU.

THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE. THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU'VE SACRIFICED.

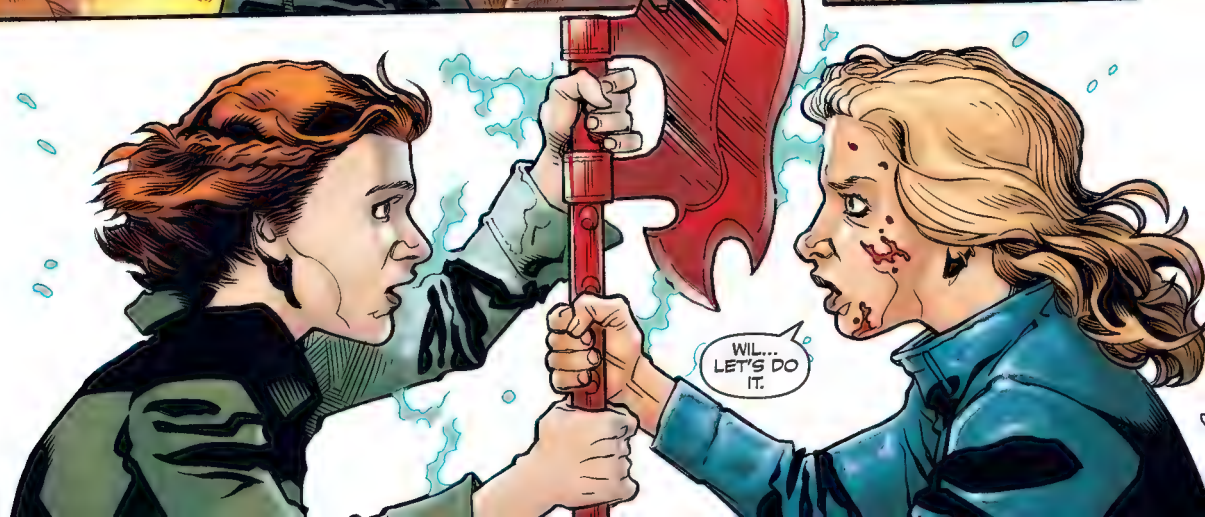
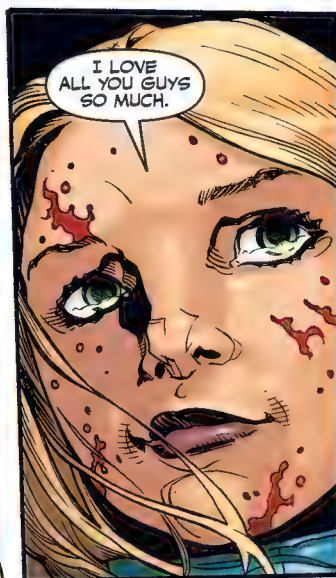
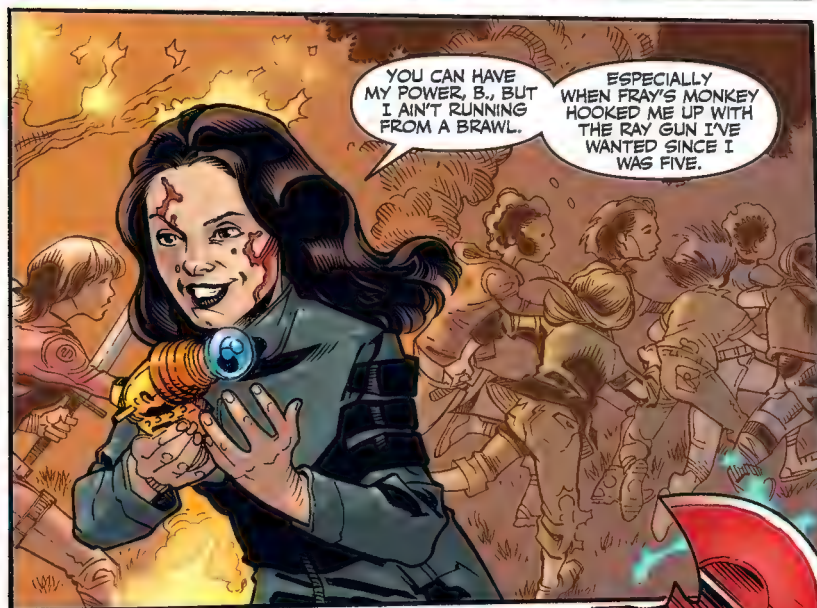
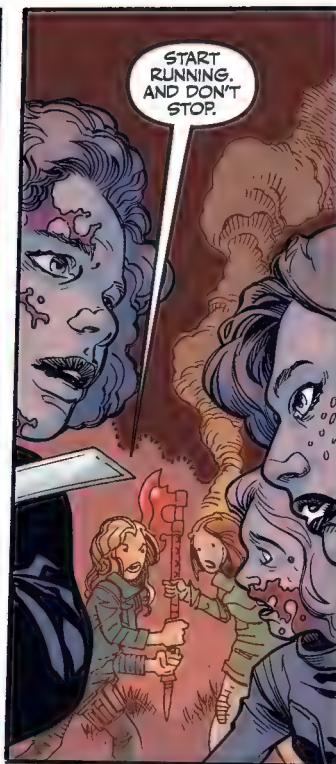


IF THIS WORKS RIGHT, YOU WON'T HAVE TO FIGHT ANYMORE. I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S A WIN...

...BUT IF YOU LIVE...LOVE...IF YOU'RE HAPPY...

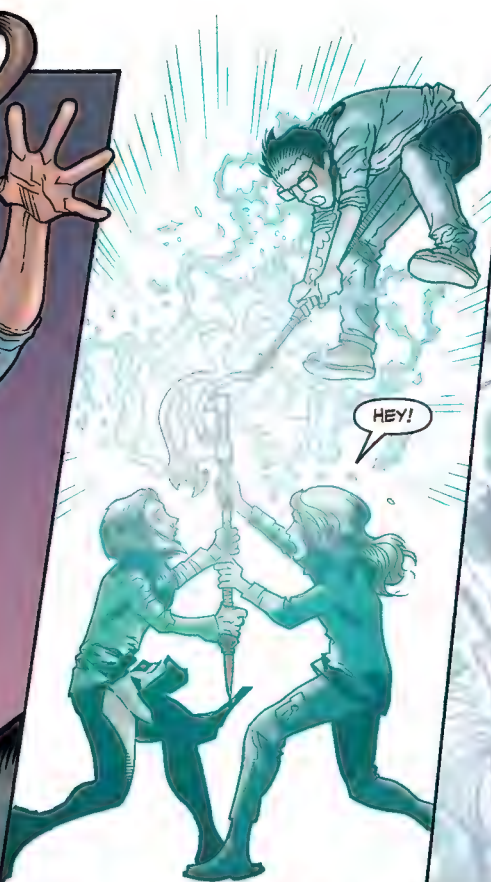


...IT'S SURE AS HELL NOT A LOSS. AND I'LL TAKE THAT.

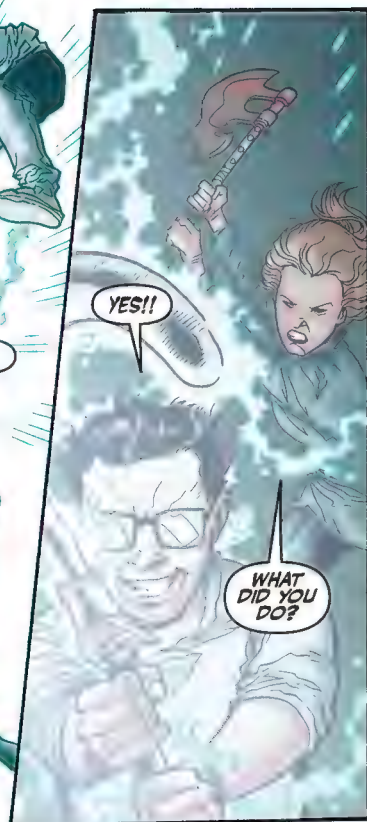




NOW.



HEY!



YES!!

WHAT DID YOU DO?



YOU RECOGNIZE THE STAFF? YOU SHOULD.

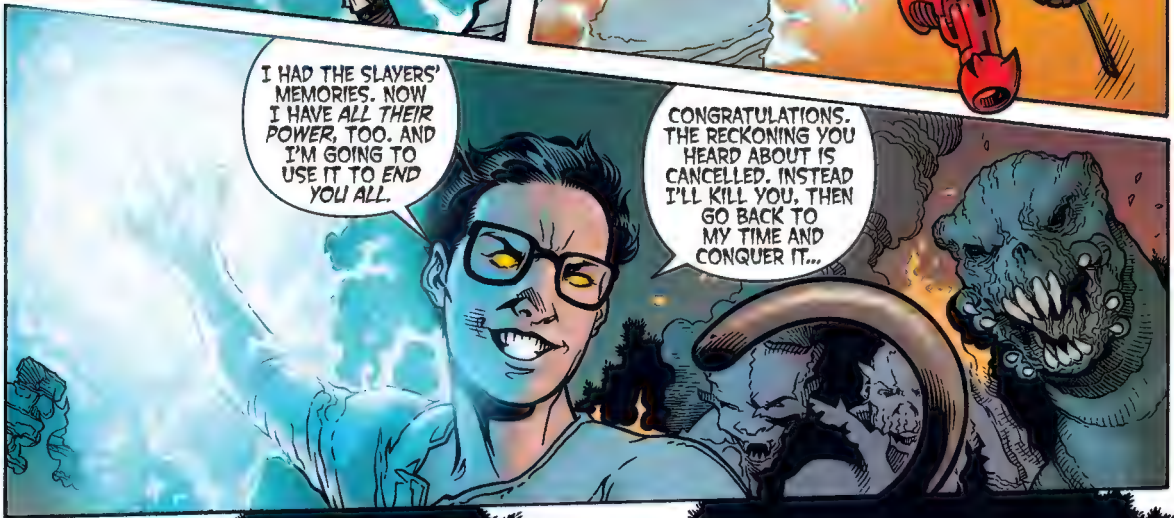
SEARCH YOUR ANCESTRAL MEMORIES. IT BELONGED TO ONE OF THE WIZARDS WHO CREATED THE FIRST SLAYER.



MEN GAVE YOU YOUR POWER.

AND A MAN JUST TOOK IT BACK.

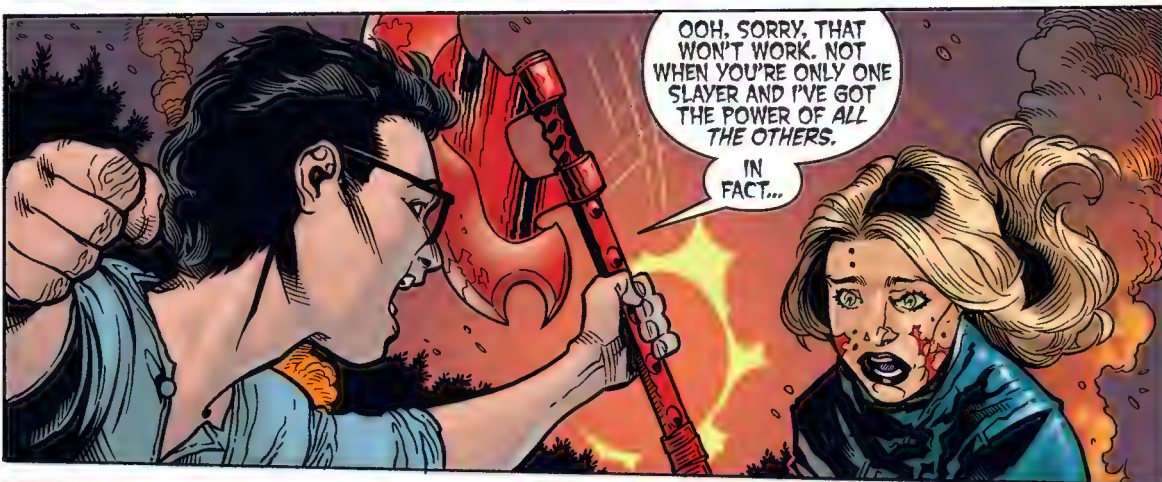
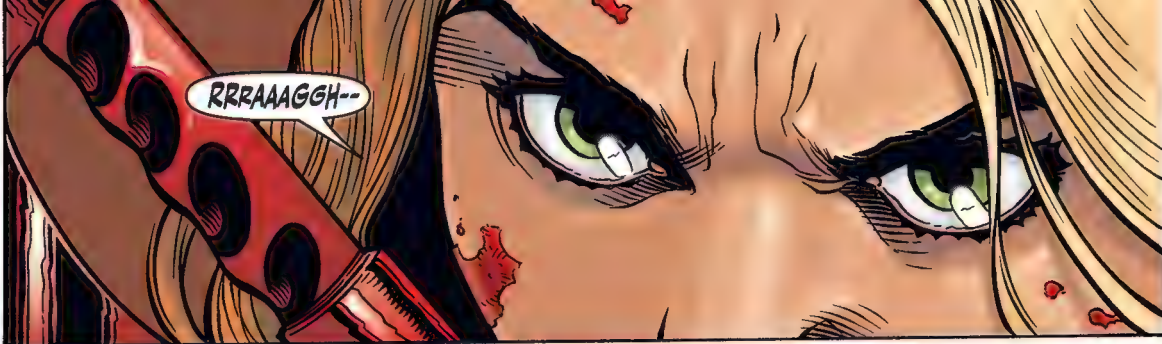
HNGGH!

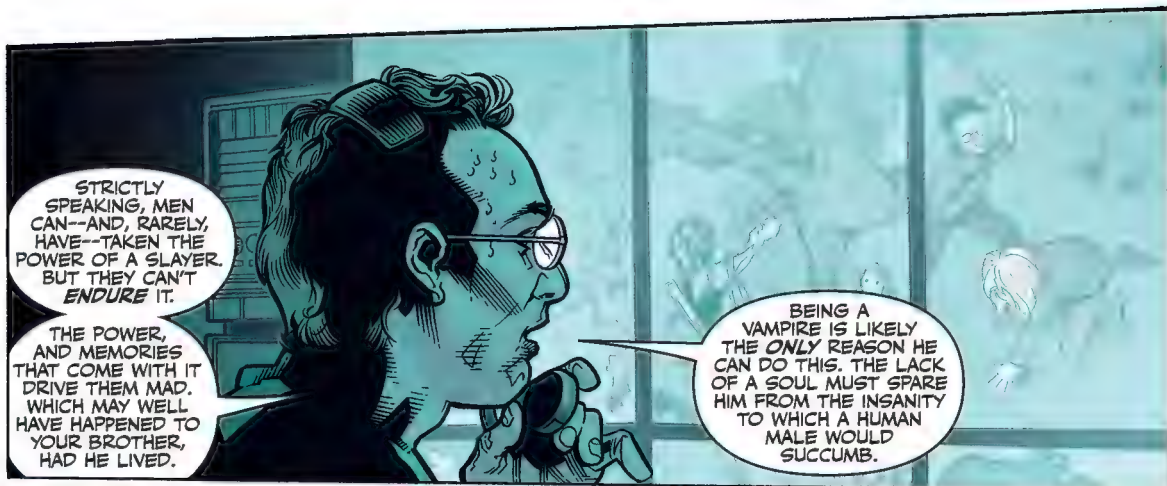






THE RECKONING
CHAPTER FOUR





STRICTLY SPEAKING, MEN CAN--AND, RARELY, HAVE--TAKEN THE POWER OF A SLAYER. BUT THEY CAN'T ENDURE IT.

THE POWER, AND MEMORIES THAT COME WITH IT DRIVE THEM MAD. WHICH MAY WELL HAVE HAPPENED TO YOUR BROTHER, HAD HE LIVED.

BEING A VAMPIRE IS LIKELY THE ONLY REASON HE CAN DO THIS. THE LACK OF A SOUL MUST SPARE HIM FROM THE INSANITY TO WHICH A HUMAN MALE WOULD SUCCUMB.



BUT LISTEN--YOU ALL HAVE TO RUN. HISTORY HAS BEEN CHANGED. WE MUST ESCAPE AND REGROUP--

NOT A CHANCE.

TOO RIGHT.

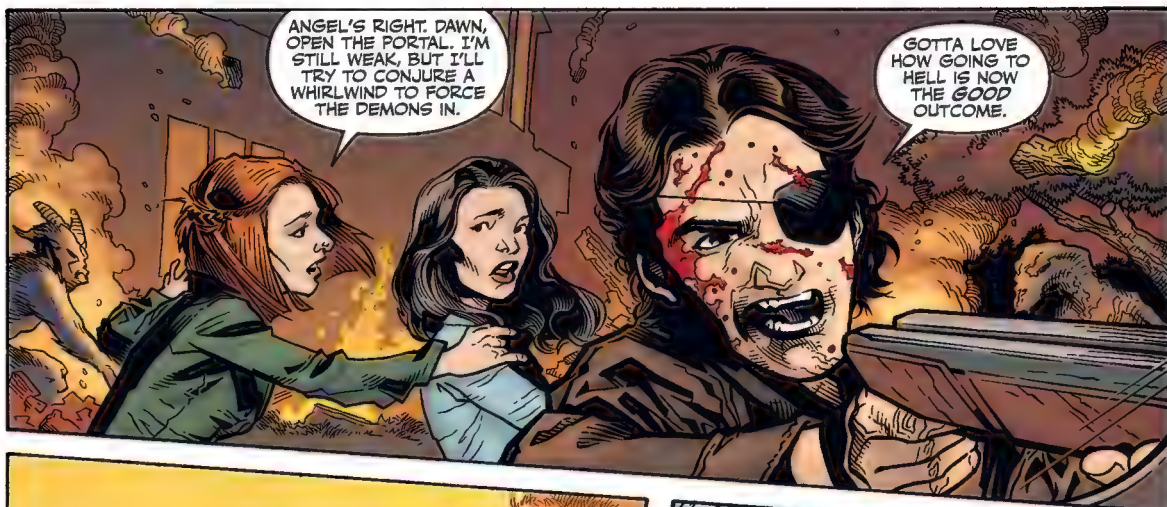
ILLYRIA THE MERCILESS DOES NOT FLEE FROM BATTLE.



WE STICK TO THE PLAN! OPEN A PORTAL TO HELL, SHOVE 'EM THROUGH!

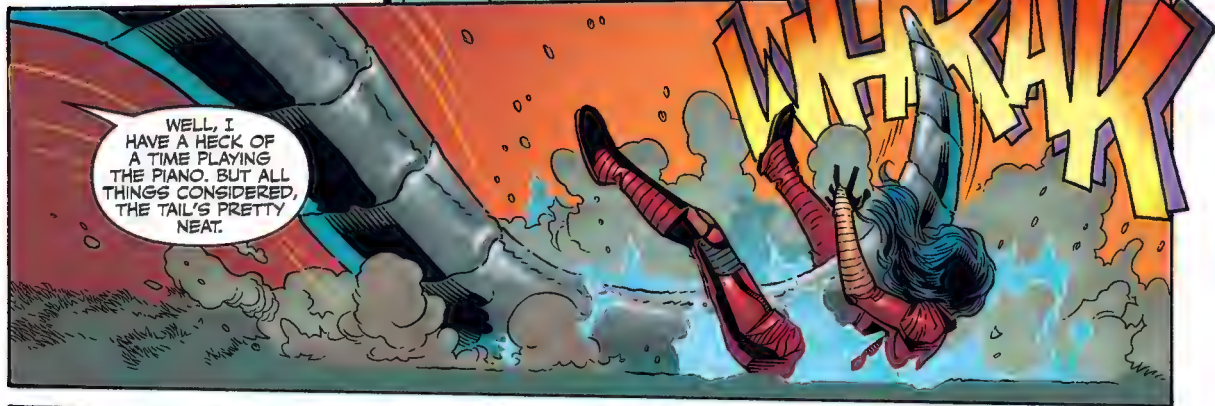
AND IF WE HAVE TO GO WITH 'EM, THAT'S WHAT WE DO.

OH, THIS IS GOING TO BE FUN.





ALL THIS
POWER!
I UNDERSTAND
WHY YOU CHOSE TO
BECOME A DEMON,
MAYOR WILKINS.
THERE'S NOTHING
YOU CAN'T DO!



WELL, I
HAVE A HECK OF
A TIME PLAYING
THE PIANO. BUT ALL
THINGS CONSIDERED,
THE TAIL'S PRETTY
NEAT.



I'VE GOT TO
HAND IT TO YOU,
HARTH. YOU SURE
DELIVERED ON
YOUR PROMISE.

WE STILL GET RID
OF THE SLAYERS AND
ALL THEIR RIFF-RAFF
FRIENDS--BUT WE STAY
ON EARTH, SITTING
PRETTY, AND THE
WHOLE WORLD'S
OURS!

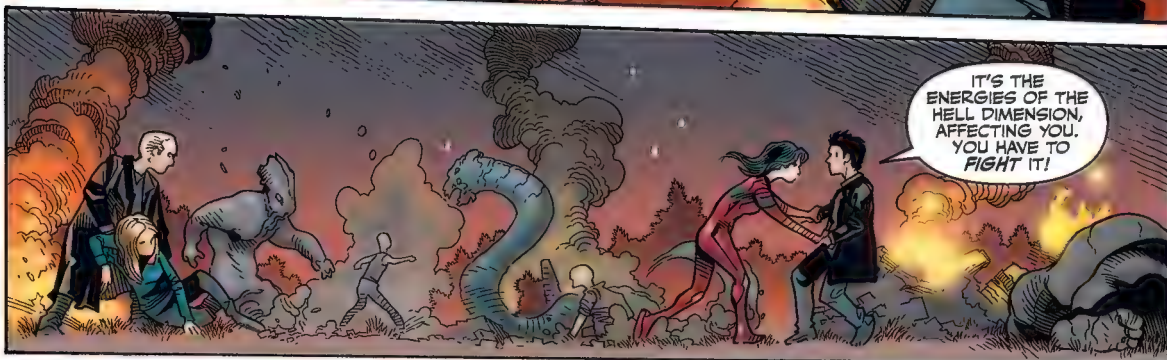
THAT'S
WHAT I
CALL A
SWELL
DAY.

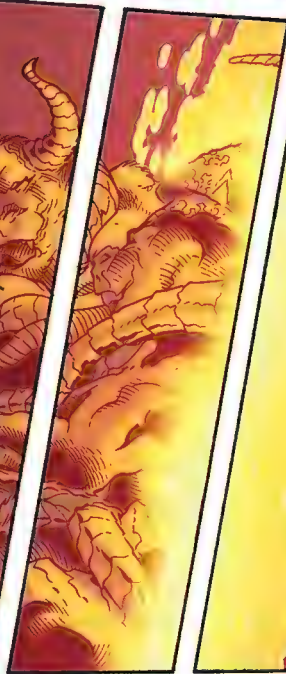
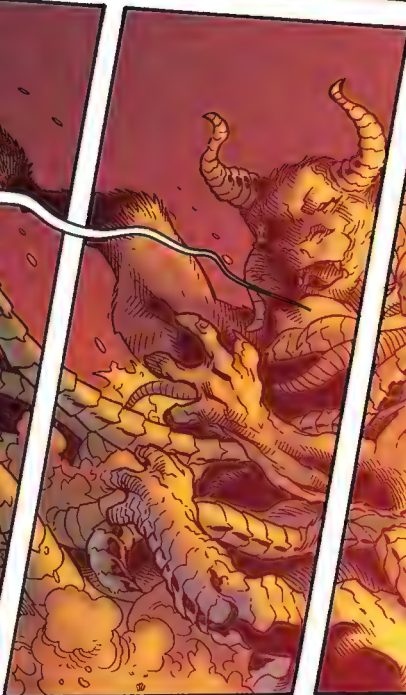


THE PORTAL'S
STILL OPEN. IF
WILLOW CAN'T GIVE
US A HURRICANE, WE
HAVE TO BE THE
HURRICANE.

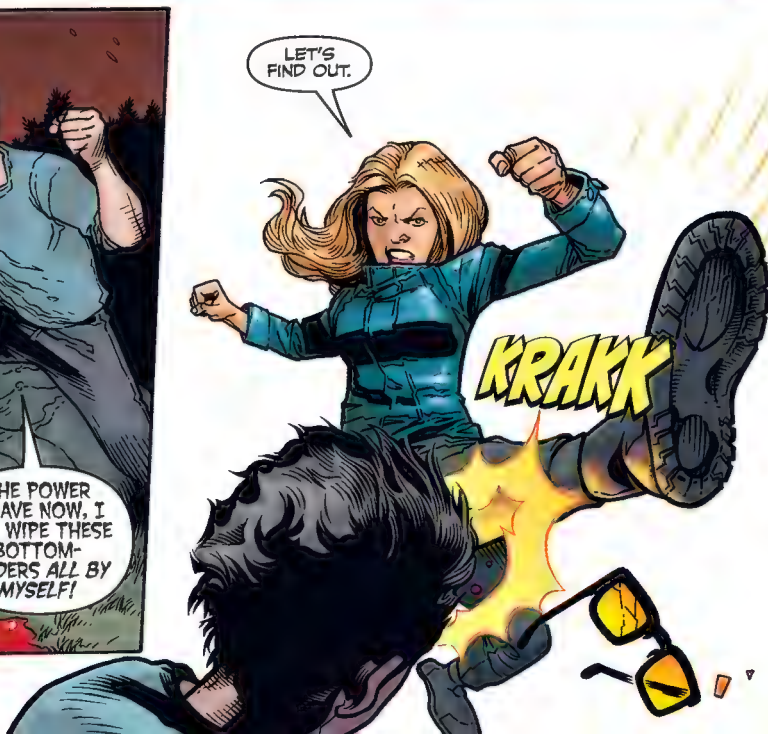
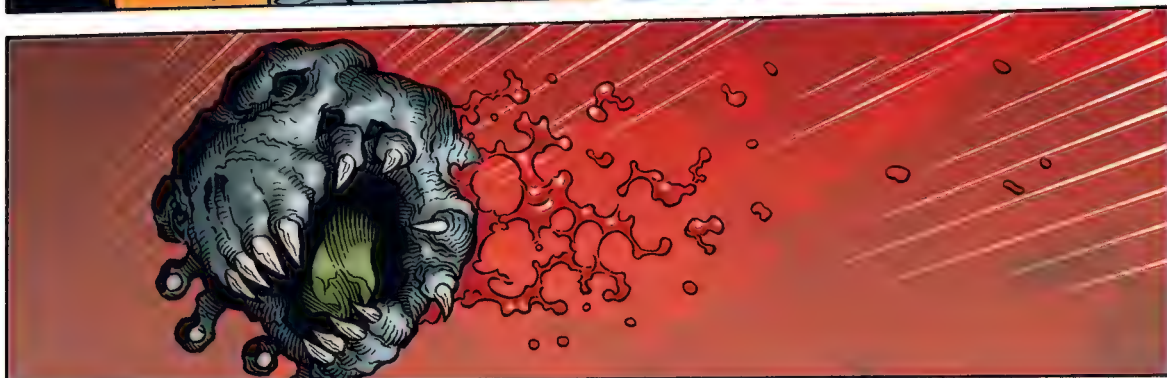
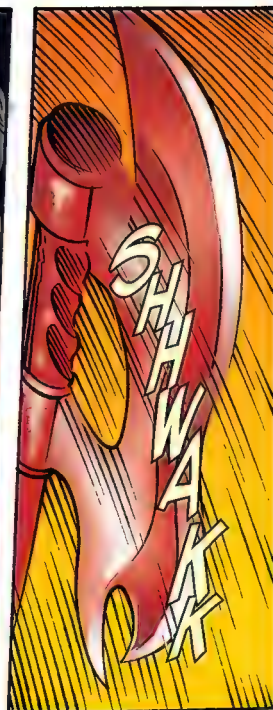
TOSS THE
BAD GUYS INTO
HELL PERSONALLY.
AND KEEP 'EM
THERE.

AT LEAST
THIS WAY IT'S
ALL OF US. RECKON
THAT'S THE BEST
OF A BAD BATCH
O' CHOICES.



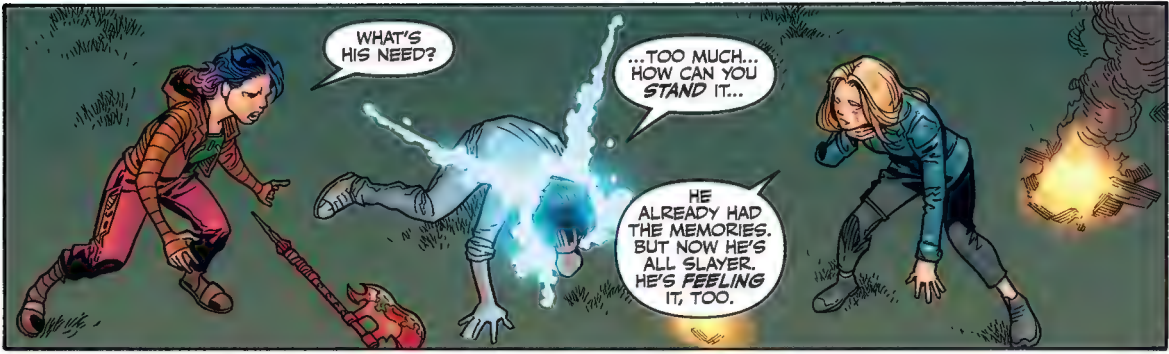








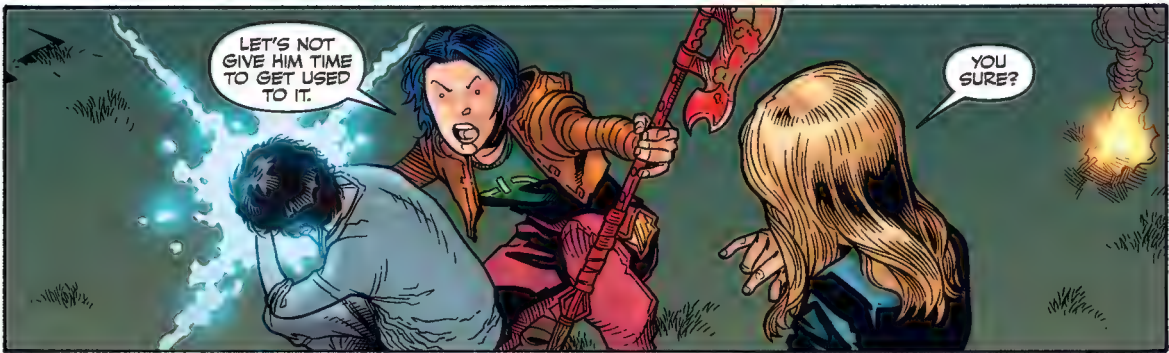




WHAT'S HIS NEED?

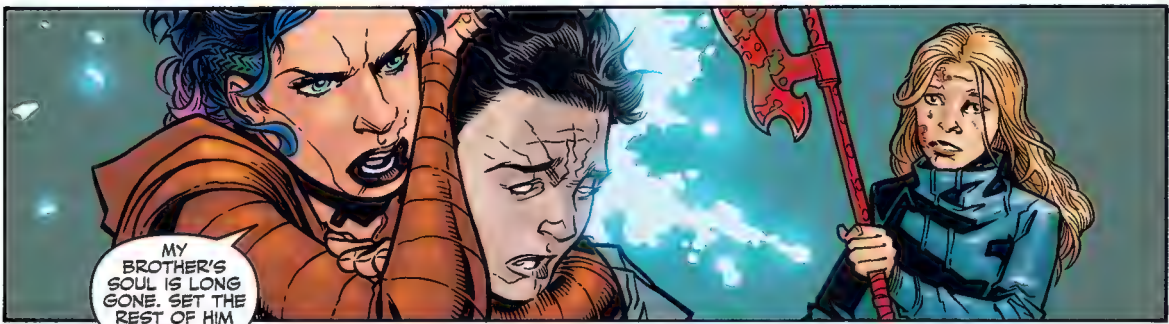
...TOO MUCH...
HOW CAN YOU
STAND IT...

HE
ALREADY HAD
THE MEMORIES.
BUT NOW HE'S
ALL SLAYER.
HE'S FEELING
IT, TOO.



LET'S NOT
GIVE HIM TIME
TO GET USED
TO IT.

YOU
SURE?



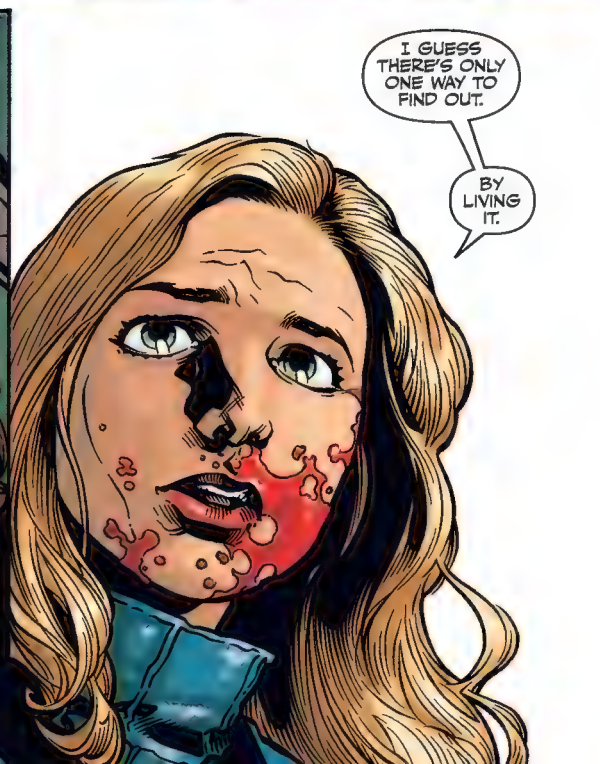
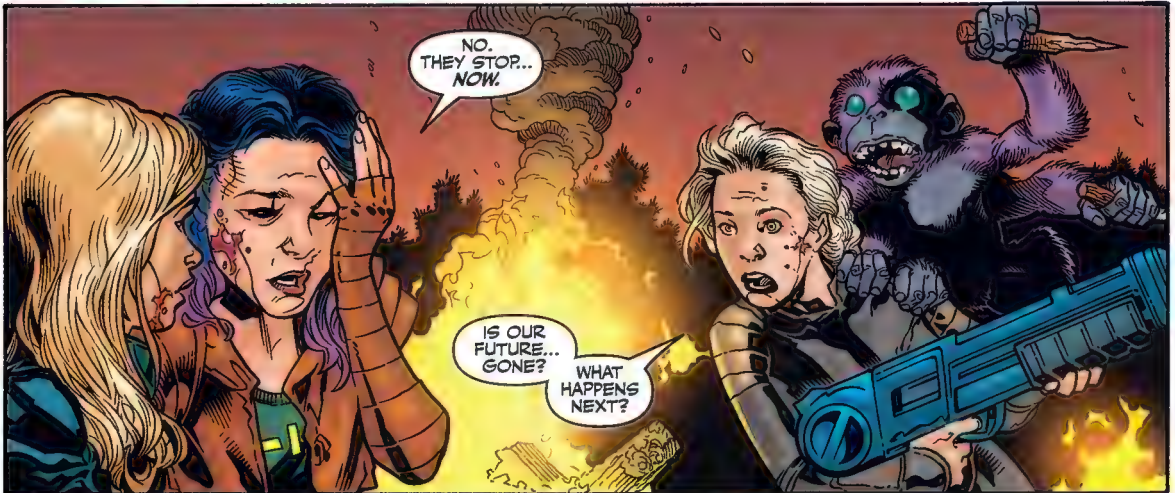
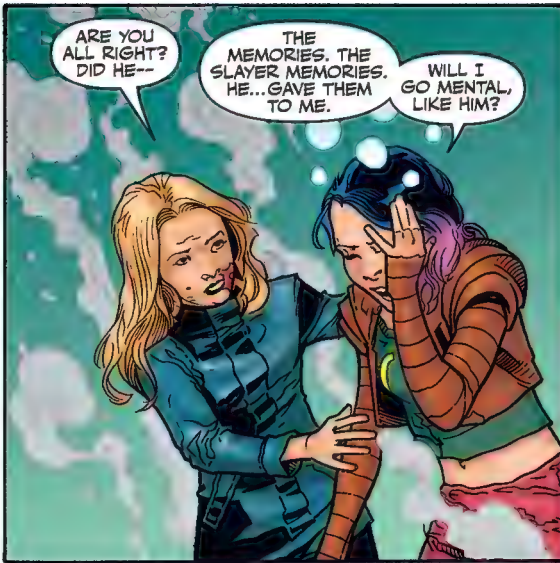
MY
BROTHER'S
SOUL IS LONG
GONE. SET THE
REST OF HIM
FREE.



SET
US ALL
FREE.







DAYS LATER.

IT'S OPEN. YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?

WE'RE RECREATING THE LAST PORTAL TO YOUR ERA AS BEST WE CAN. BUT WITHOUT ILLYRIA'S TIME POWERS, I CAN'T GUARANTEE WHAT'S ON THE OTHER SIDE.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE WELCOME TO STAY, RIGHT?

THE FRAY WOMEN NEVER TAKE THE EASY WAY.

SIDES, EVERYONE HERE TALKS FUNNY.

THANKS FOR THE FORCEMENT, SISTER.

RIGHT BACK AT YOU. I THINK.

ERIN. GATES.

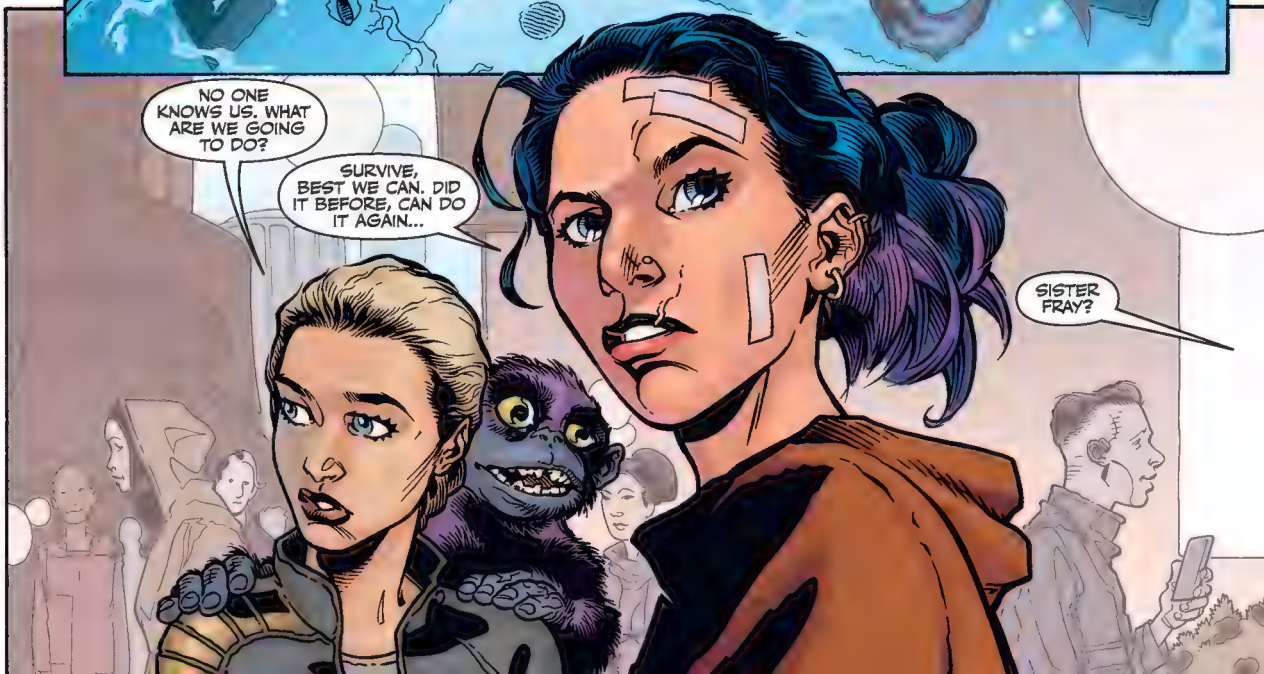
LET'S SEE HOW BIG A MESS WE MADE.

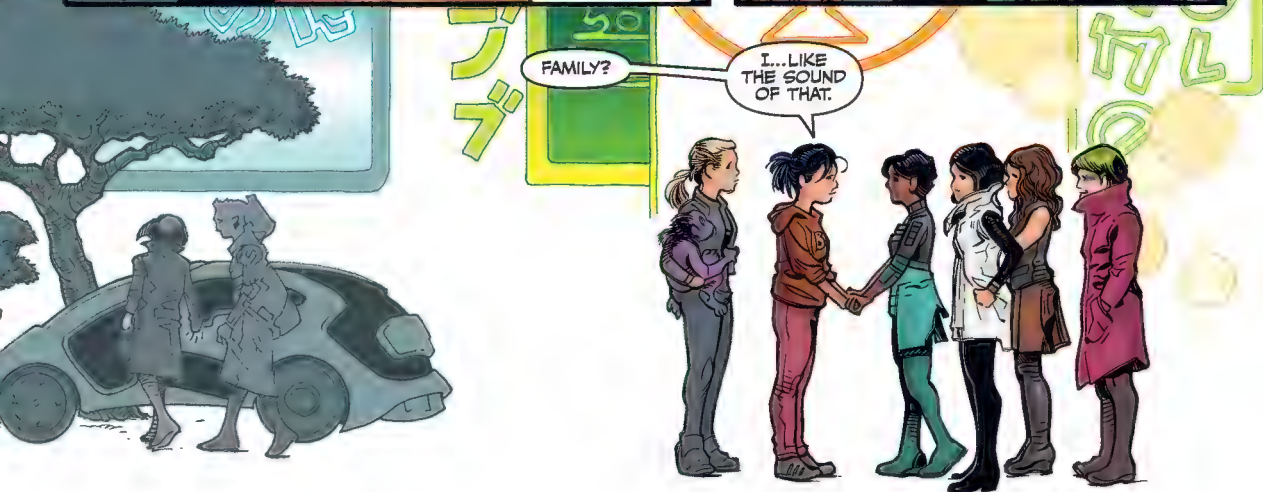
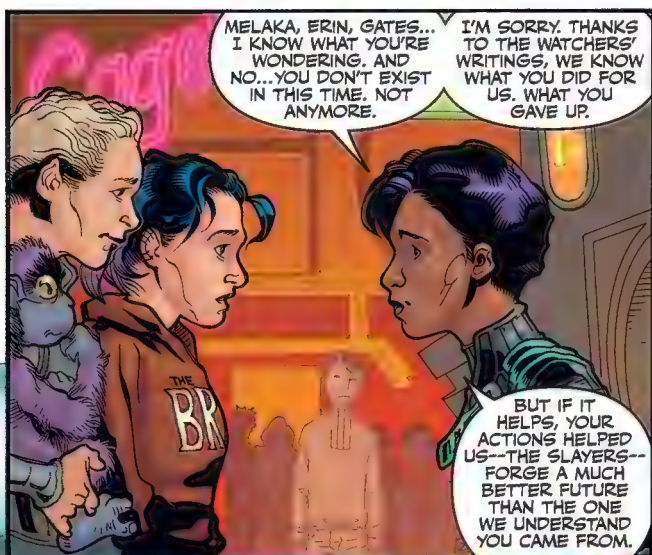
Rain

THIS...

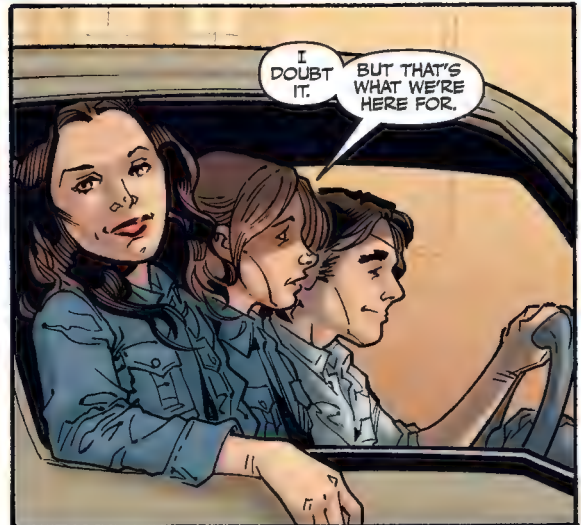
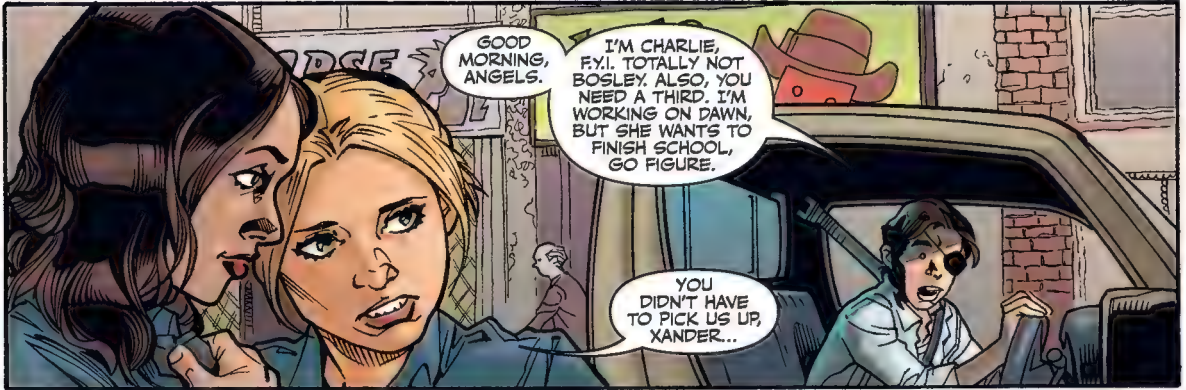
...THIS ISN'T HOME.

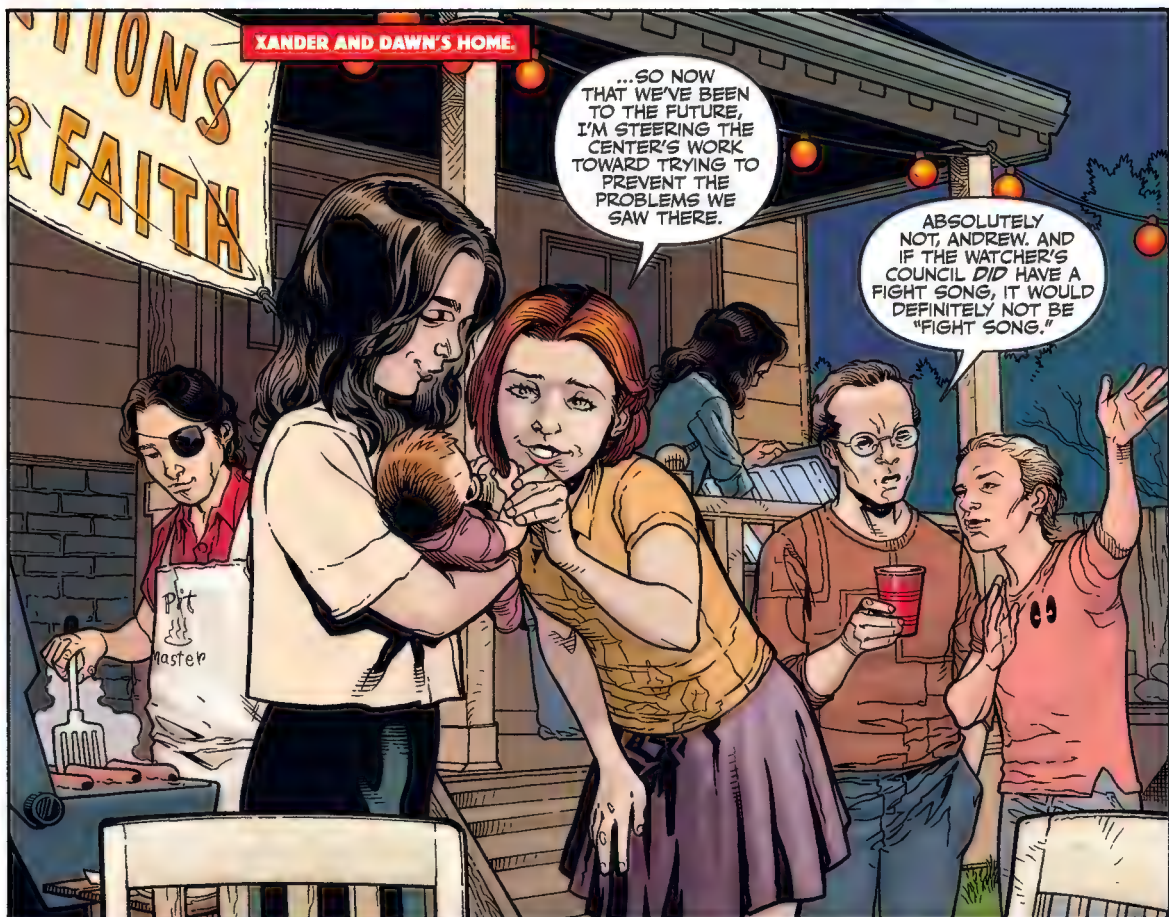
RONZE





TWO WEEKS LATER. SAN FRANCISCO POLICE ACADEMY.





XANDER AND DAWN'S HOME.

...SO NOW THAT WE'VE BEEN TO THE FUTURE, I'M STEERING THE CENTER'S WORK TOWARD TRYING TO PREVENT THE PROBLEMS WE SAW THERE.

ABSOLUTELY NOT, ANDREW. AND IF THE WATCHER'S COUNCIL *DID* HAVE A FIGHT SONG, IT WOULD DEFINITELY NOT BE "FIGHT SONG."



THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WANT A NICE TALL GLASS OF BLOOD.

YOU KNOW, I ALWAYS THOUGHT THIS WOULD GET LESS DISGUSTING WITH TIME. AND YET.

YOU OKAY?



OH, CHEERS. YEAH, FINE... JUST WAITING FOR THE SUN TO GO DOWN BEFORE I JOIN THE FESTIVITIES.

MIGHT WANT TO CHECK ON ANGEL, THOUGH. I'VE TRIED CALLING HIM A WANKER EVERY WAY I KNOW, BUT HE'S NOT INTERESTED IN A FIGHT.

AND THAT'S ABOUT MY ENTIRE REPERTOIRE OF THERAPY, SO...



I PLAN TO.

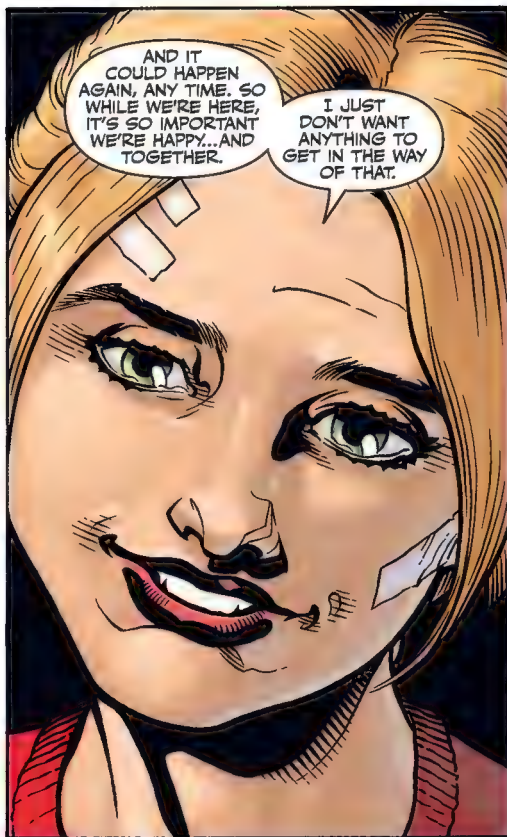
BUT I WANTED TO MAKE SURE WE'RE OKAY.



ALWAYS,
SLAYER.

I'M
GLAD.

AS AWFUL AS
THE RECKONING WAS,
SEEING YOU ALL FIGHTING
SO HARD...CARING SO
MUCH, WILLING TO GIVE UP
EVERYTHING...IT FILLED
MY HEART.



AND IT
COULD HAPPEN
AGAIN, ANY TIME. SO
WHILE WE'RE HERE,
IT'S SO IMPORTANT
WE'RE HAPPY...AND
TOGETHER.

I JUST
DON'T WANT
ANYTHING TO
GET IN THE WAY
OF THAT.



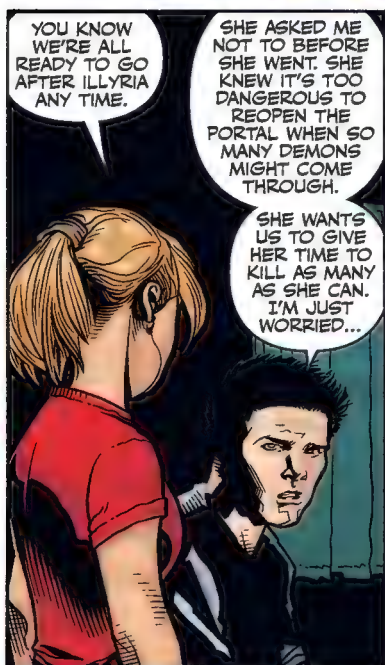
YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO'S GOING
TO DIE OF OLD AGE,
SO DON'T BLAME
ME. I AIN'T GOING
ANYWHERE.

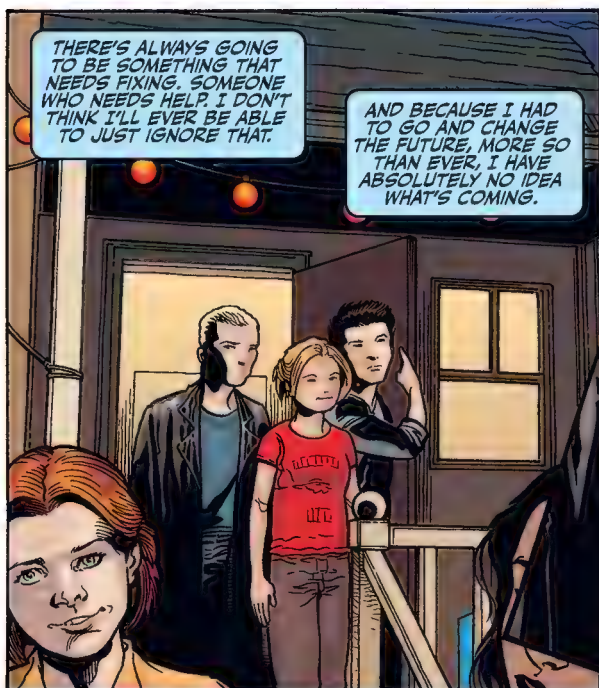
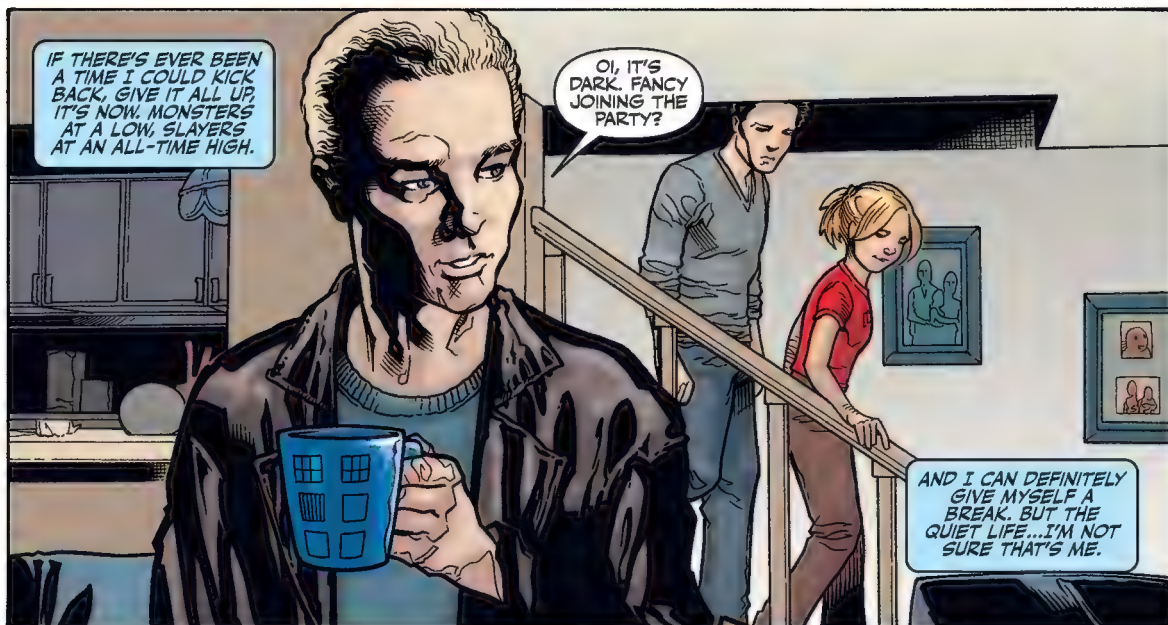
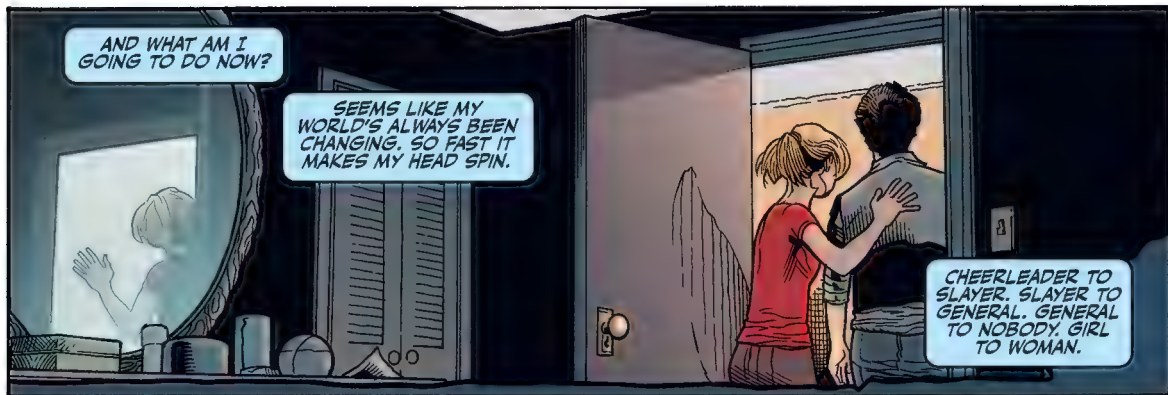


I'M MY
BEST AROUND
YOU. ALL OF
YOU...BUT
ESPECIALLY
YOU.

NOTHING'S
EVER GOING
TO CHANGE
THAT.

THAT
GOES BOTH
WAYS, WILLIAM
PRATT.





CONGRATULATIONS
BUFFY & FAITH

...WORTH IT.



THE END.





NO NEED TO FEAR,
THE SLAYER'S HERE

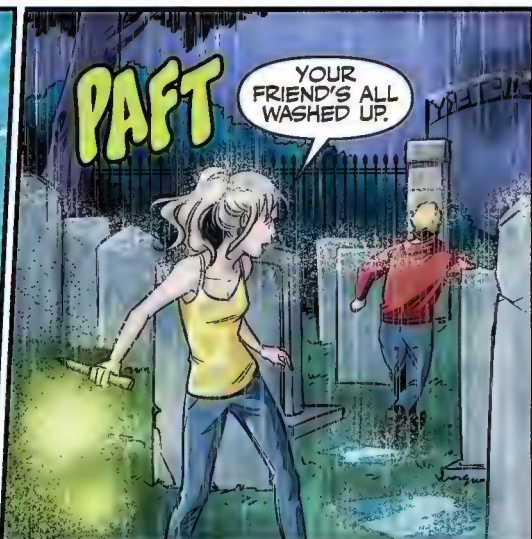
INTO EVERY GENERATION
A SLAYER IS BORN: ONE
GIRL IN ALL THE WORLD,
A CHOSEN ONE.

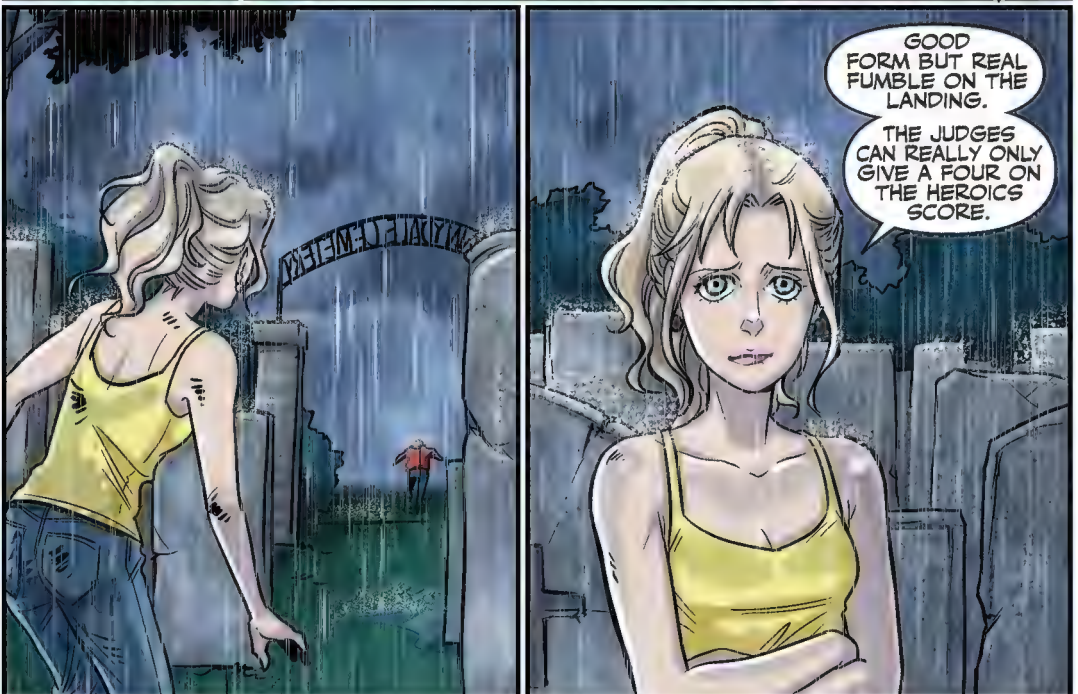
SHE ALONE WILL WIELD THE
STRENGTH AND SKILL TO
FIGHT THE VAMPIRES,
DEMONS, AND THE FORCES
OF DARKNESS.

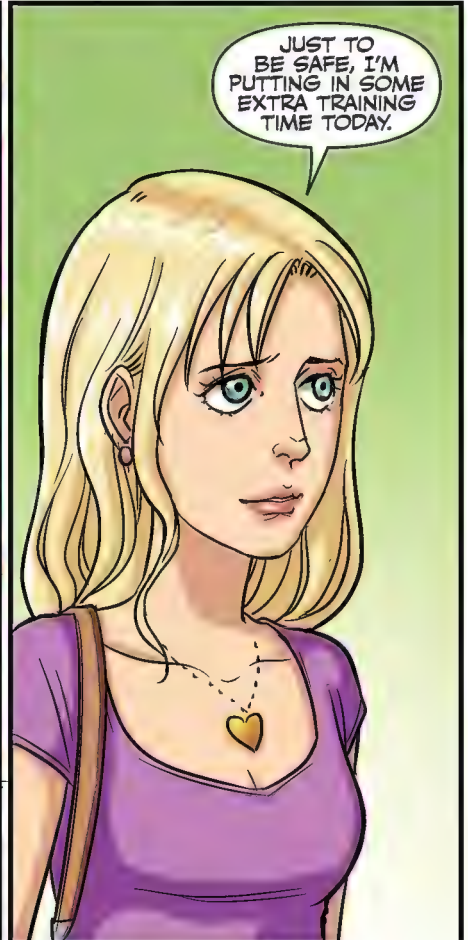
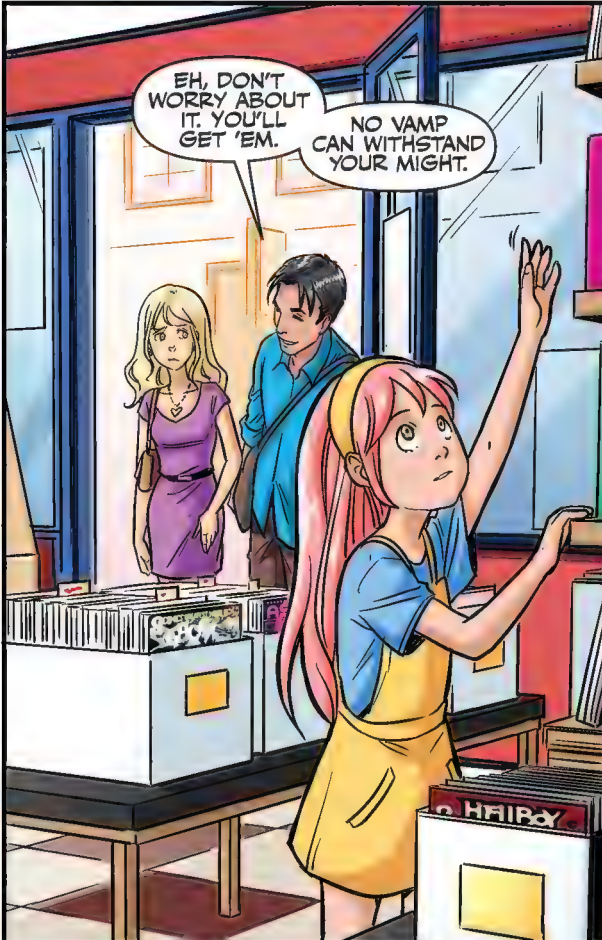
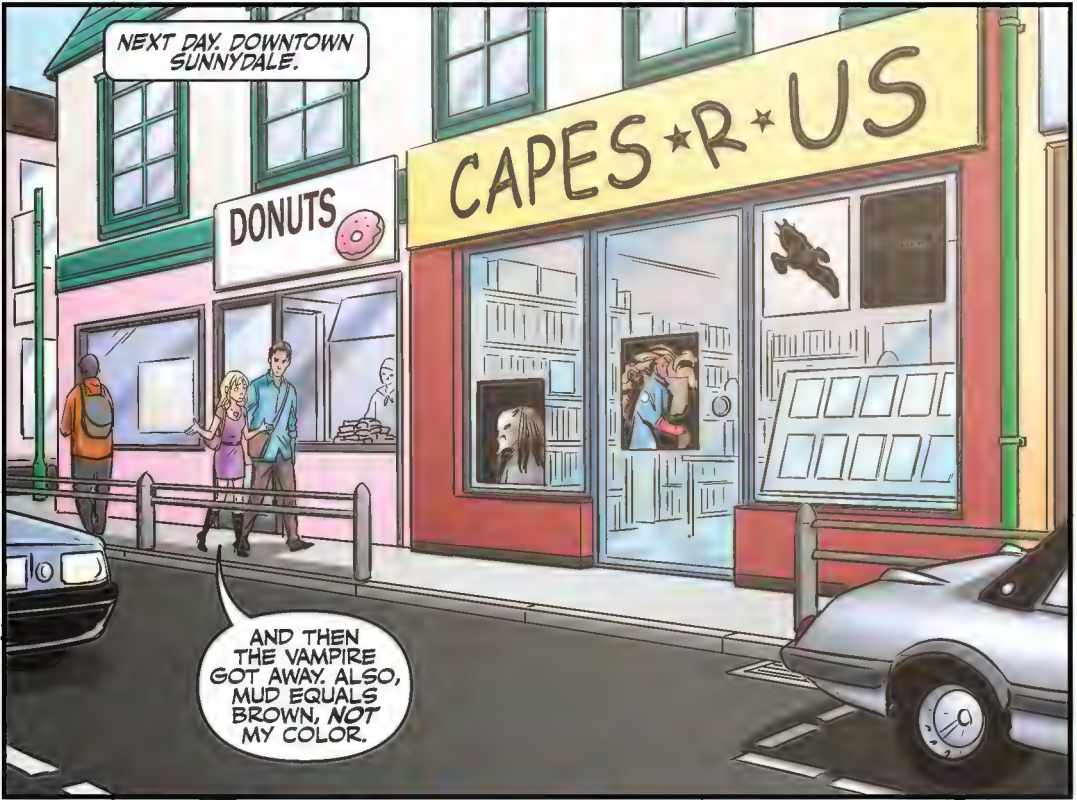
SHE IS
THE SLAYER.

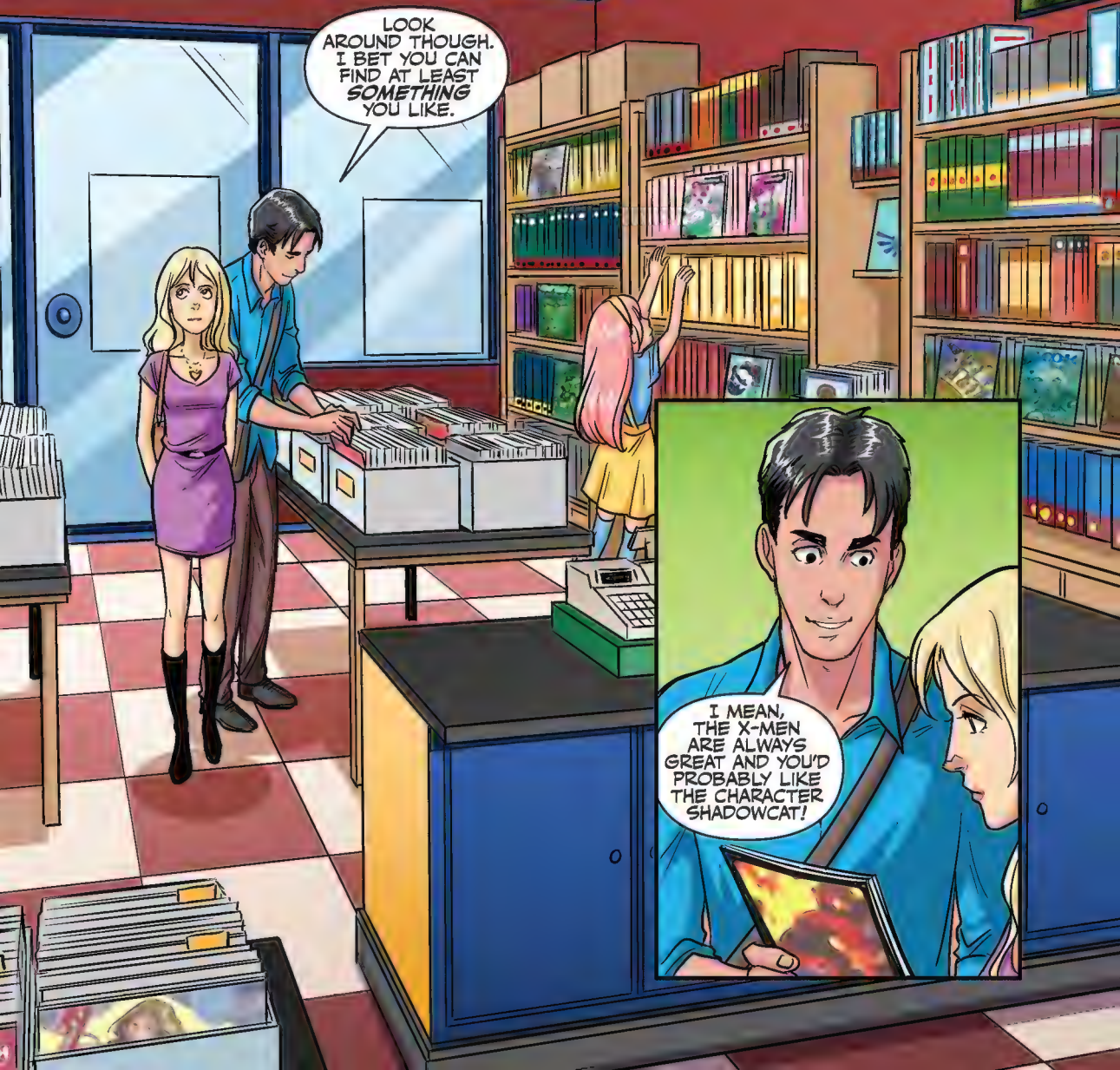
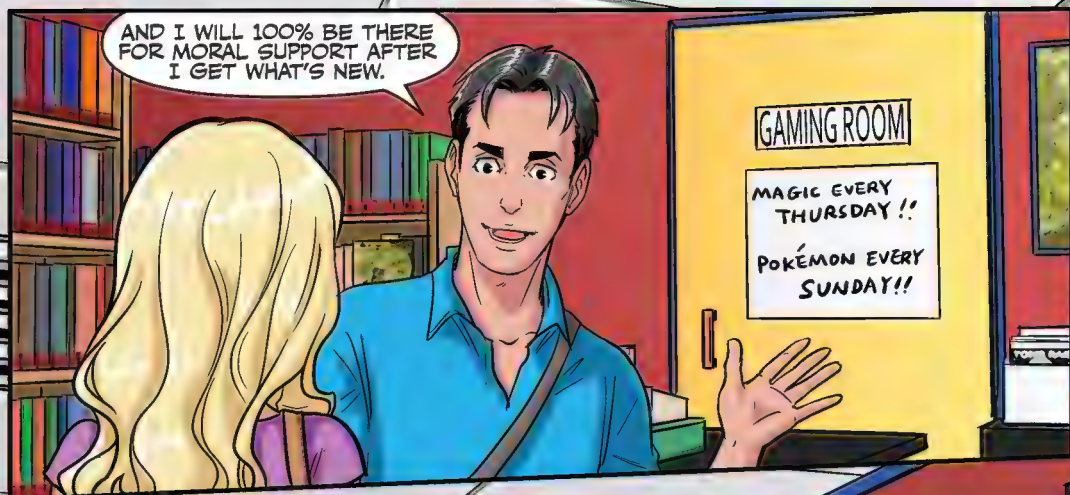


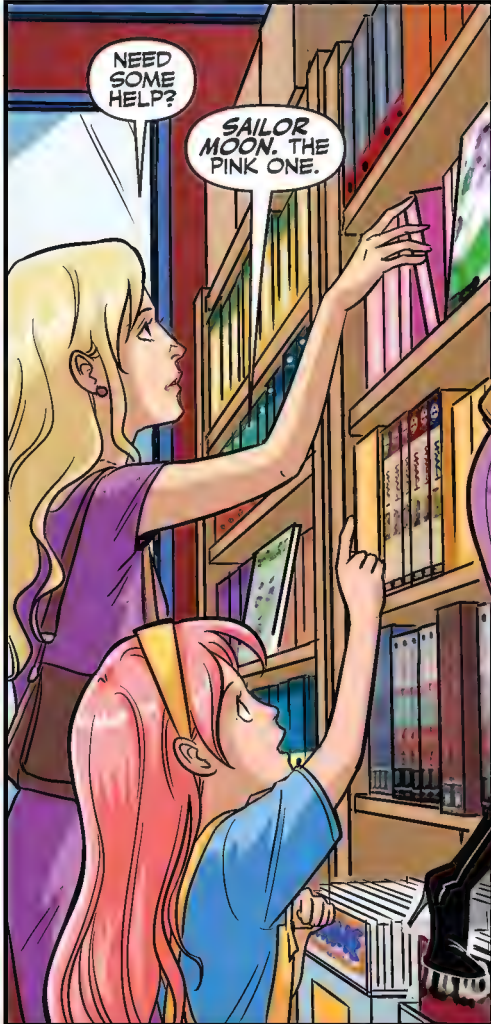
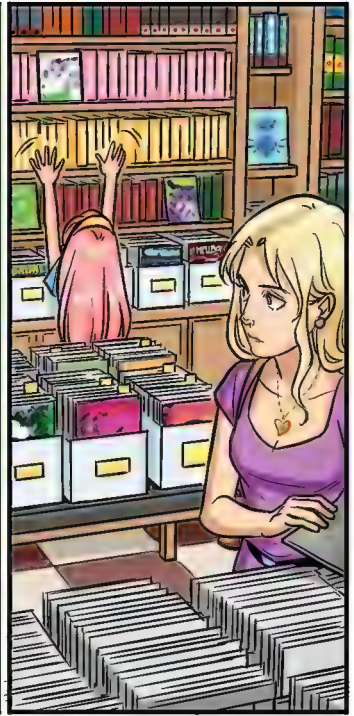
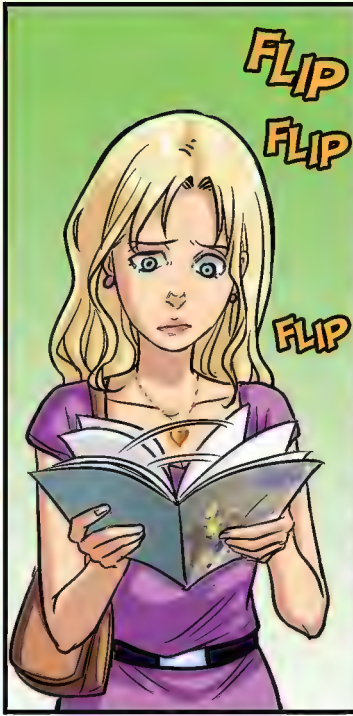
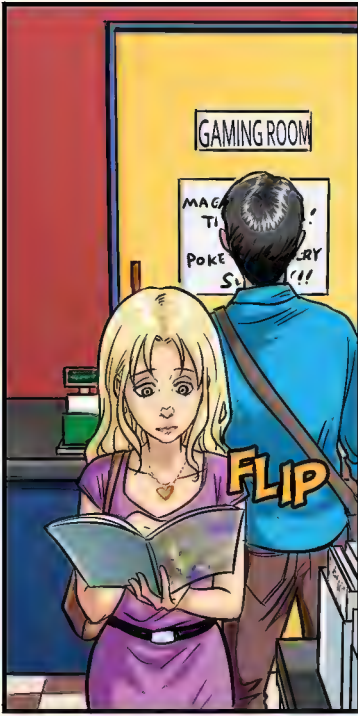
NO NEED
TO FEAR,
THE SLAYER'S
HERE

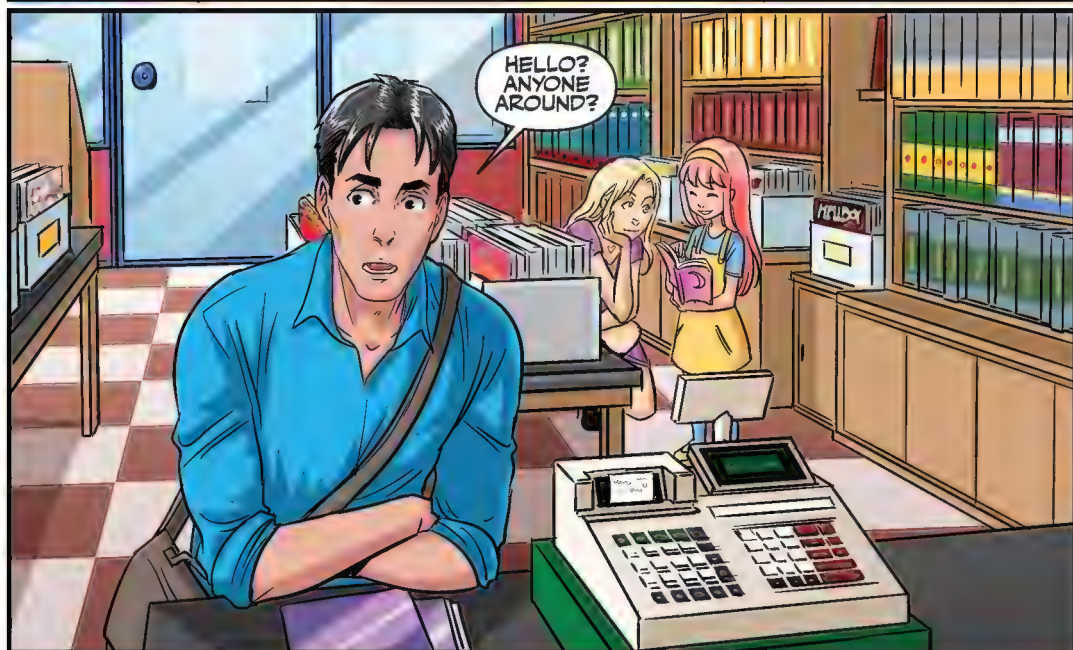
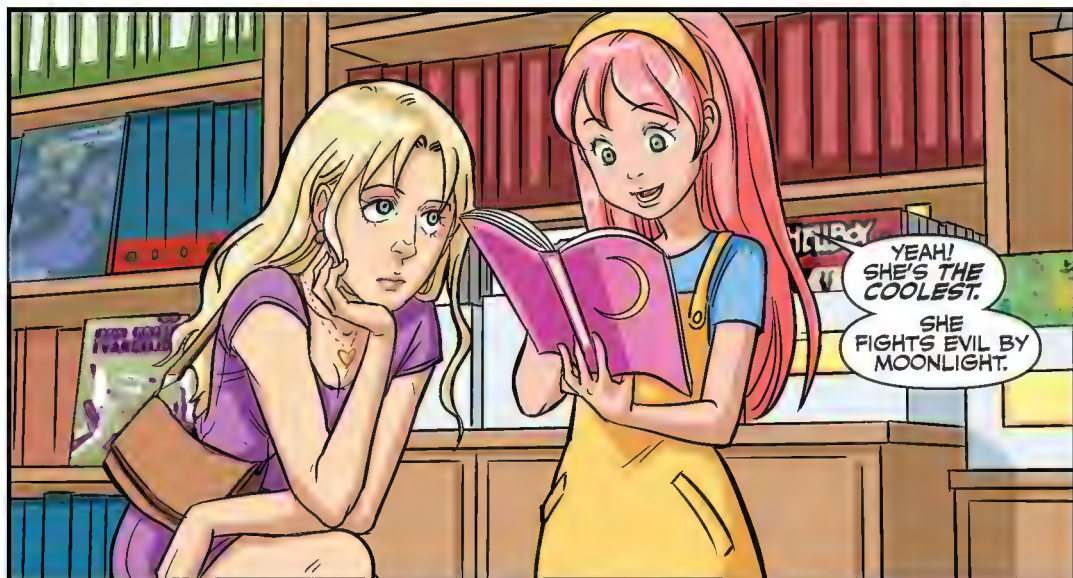




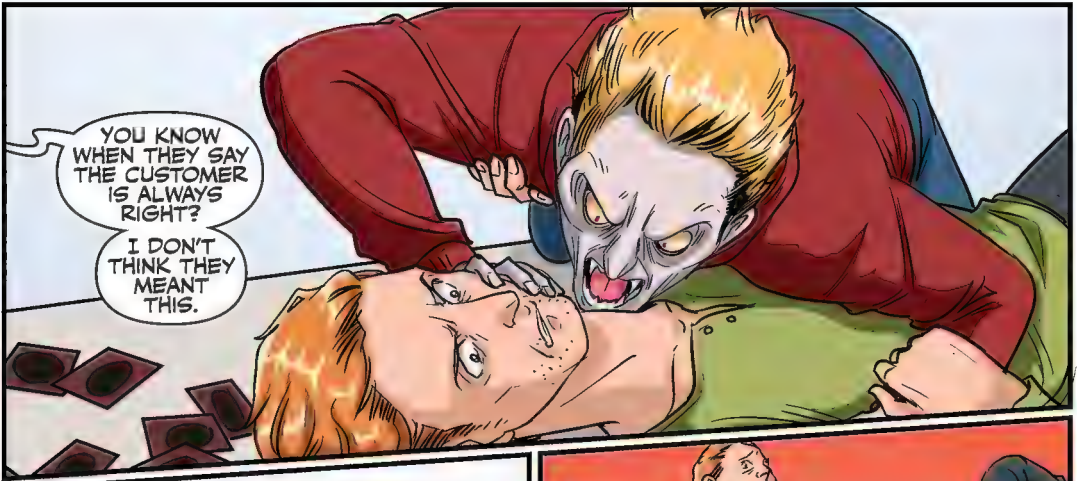


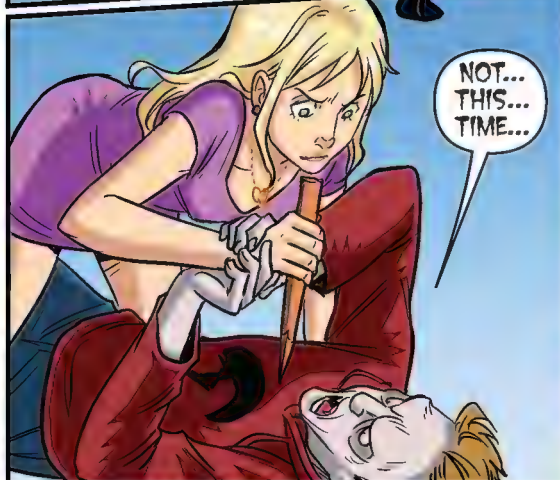
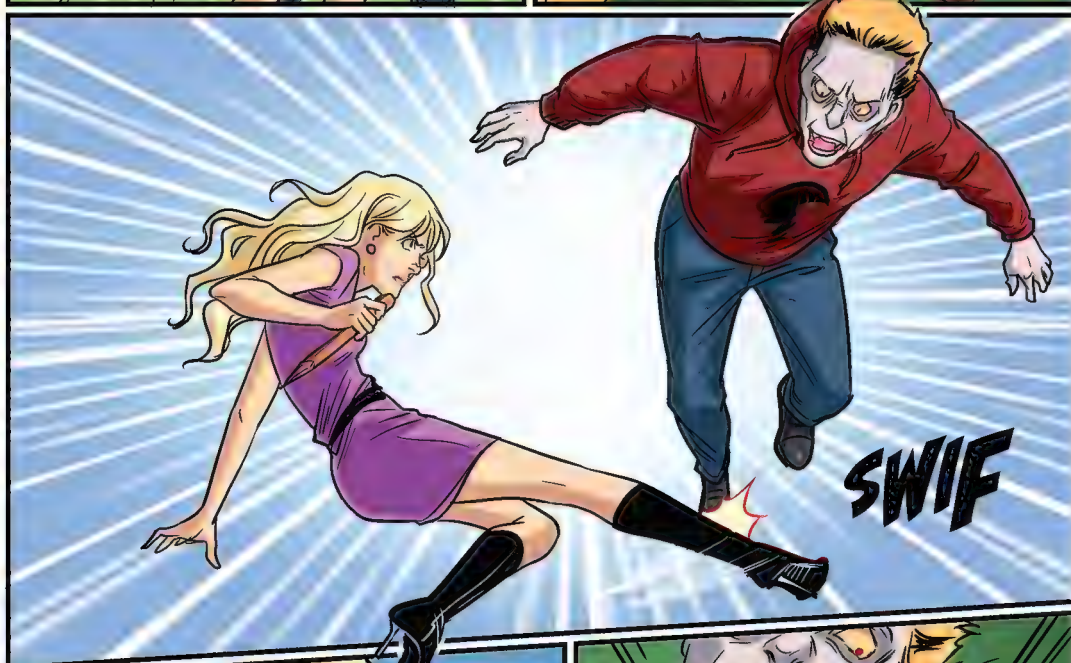


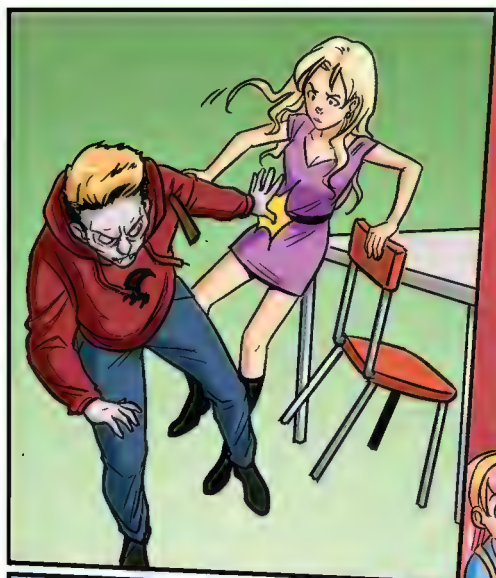


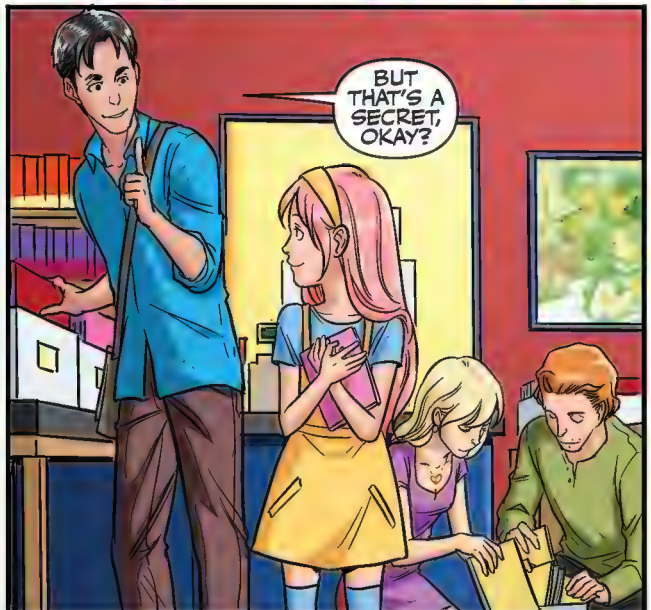
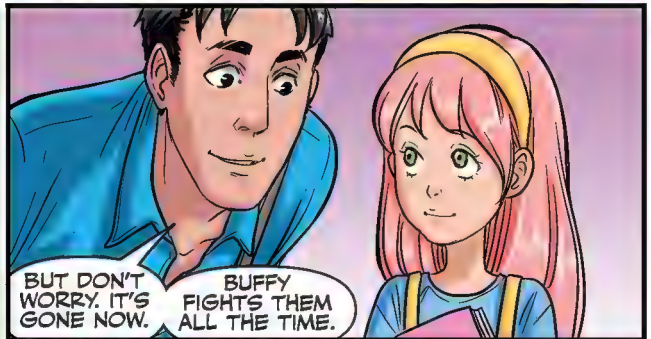
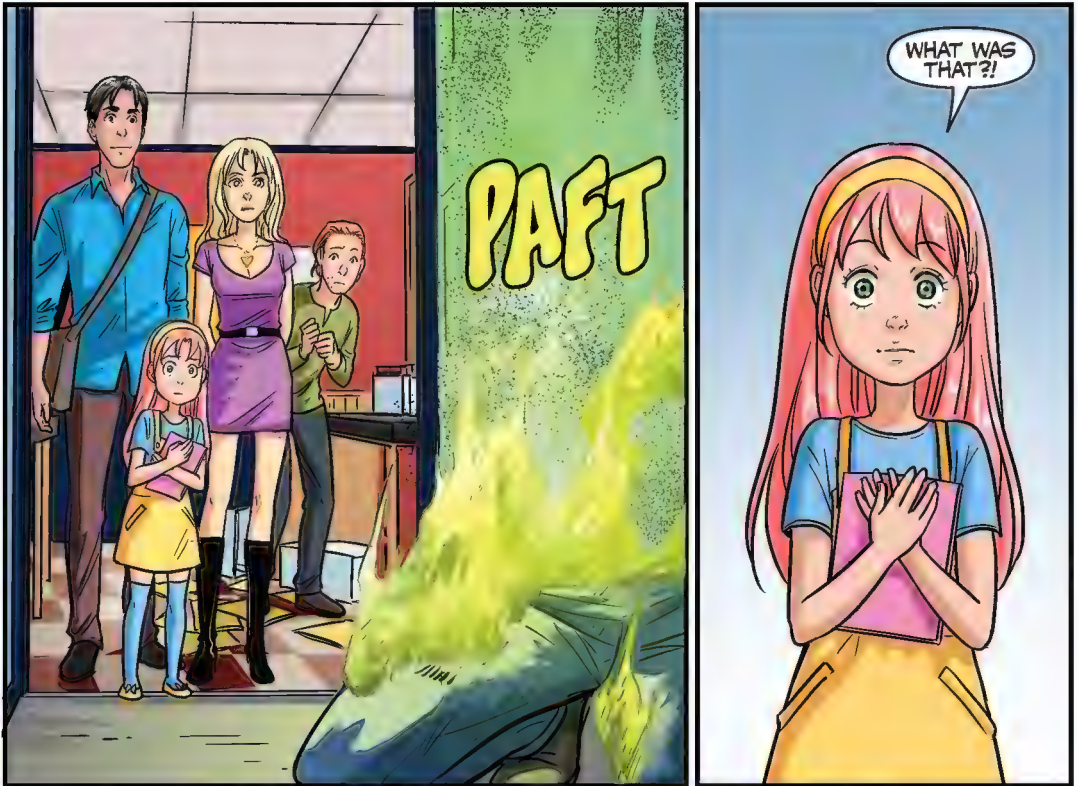


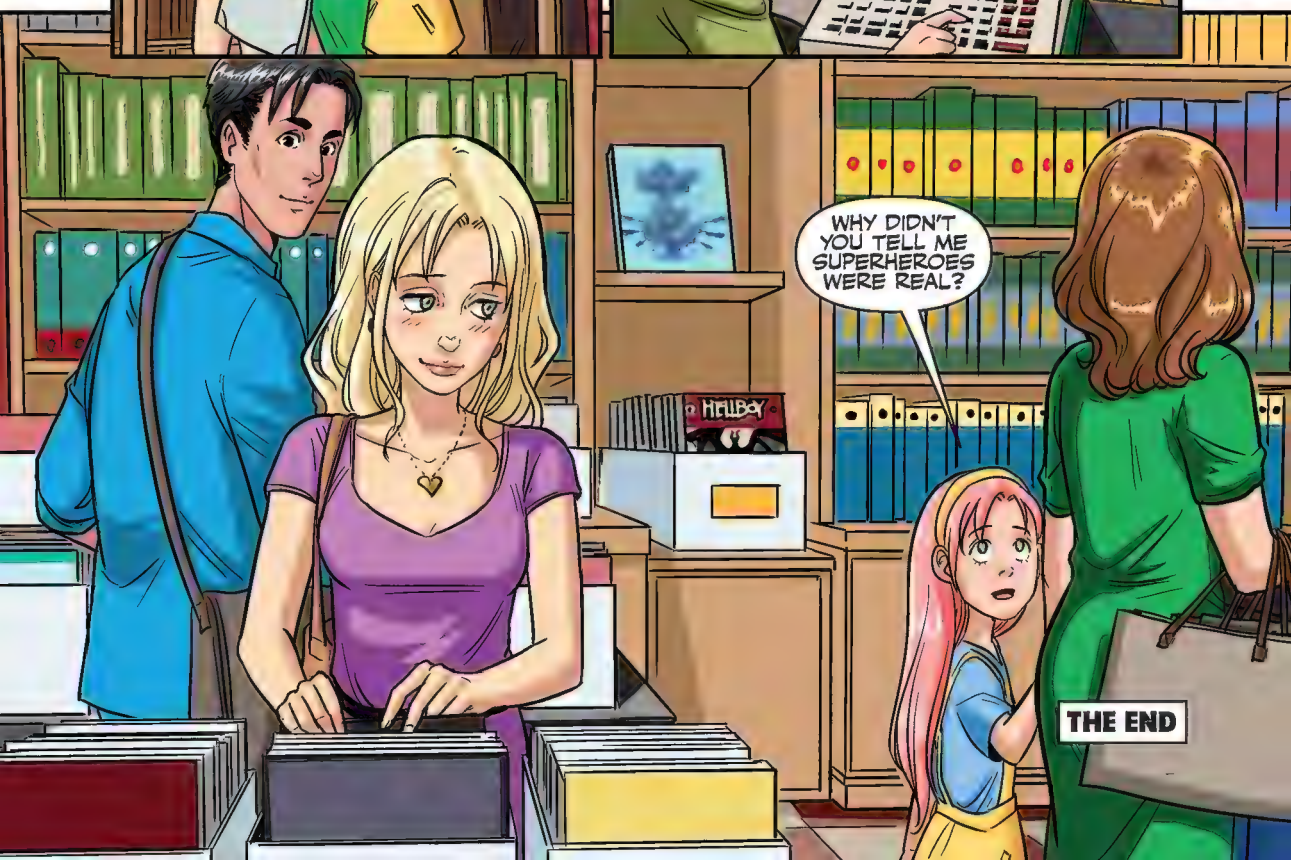
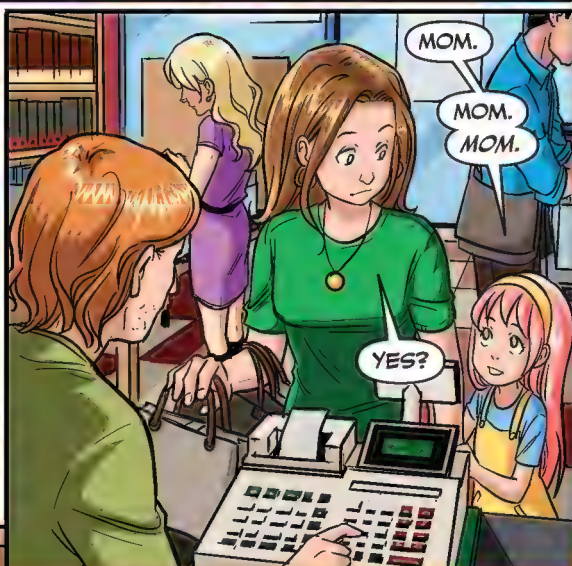
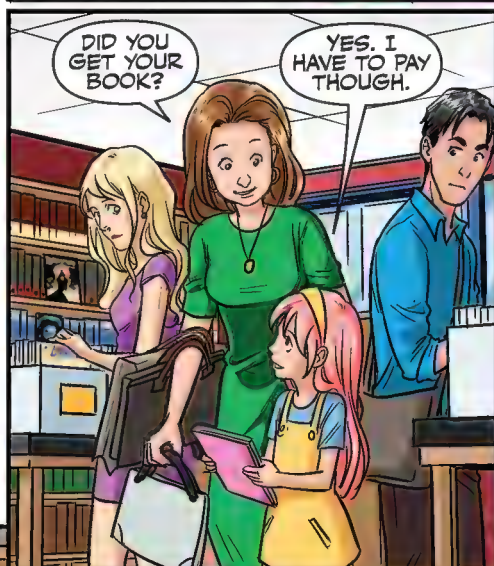
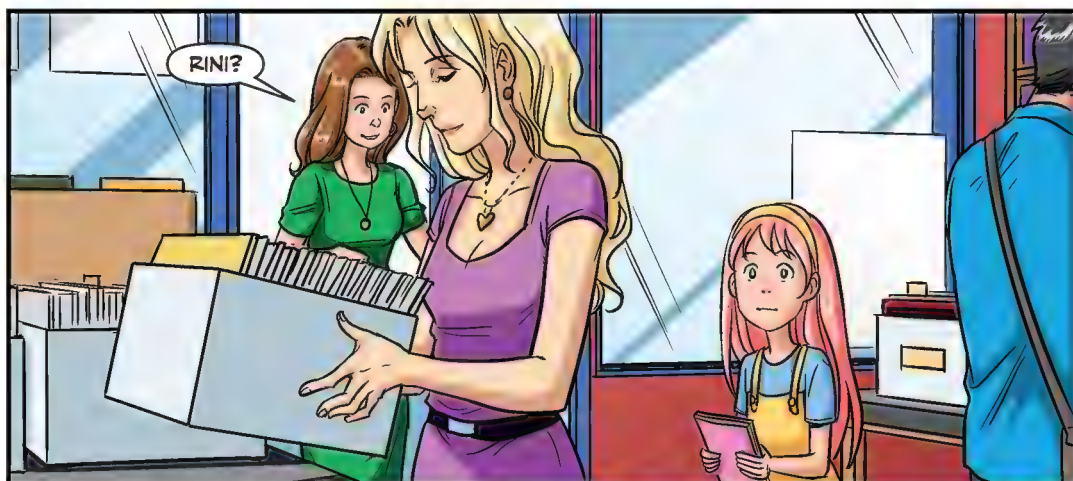


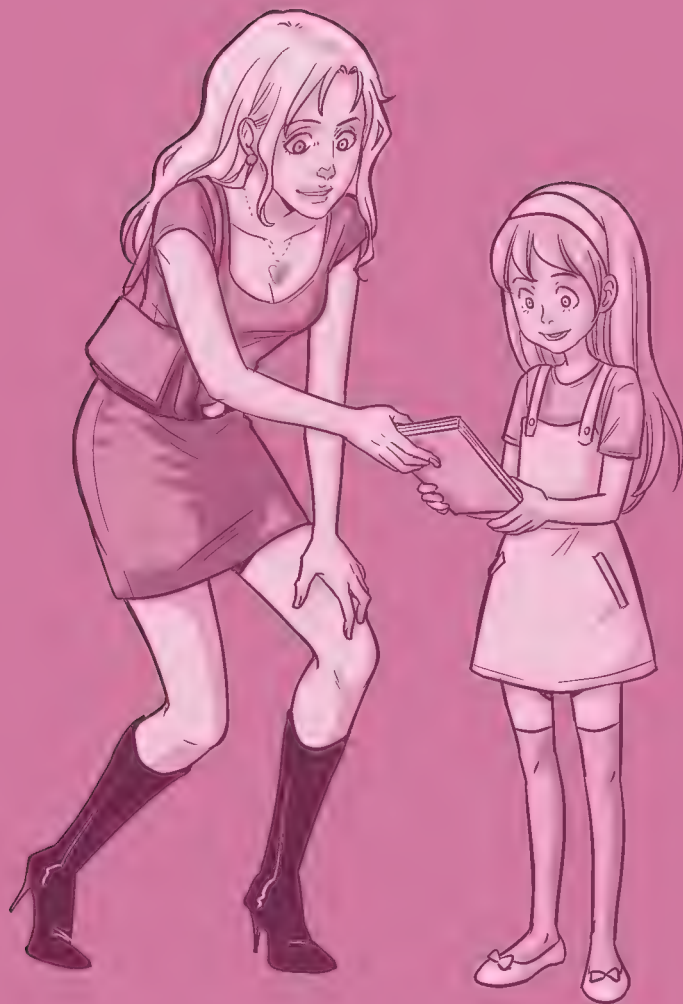














COVER GALLERY



Giles: Girl Blue #1 Main Cover by **Steve Morris**



THEY SAY
YOU CAN'T
GO HOME
AGAIN...

...BUT
APPARENTLY HIGH
SCHOOL IS FAIR
GAME--IF YOU'VE
BEEN BROUGHT
BACK TO LIFE AS
A TEENAGER.



Giles: Girl Blue #1 Ultra Rare Variant Cover by **Jenny Frison**



Giles: Girl Blue #1 ComicsPro Variant Cover by **Steve Morris**



Giles: Girl Blue #2 Main Cover by **Steve Morris**





Giles: Girl Blue #3 Main Cover by **Steve Morris**



Giles: Girl Blue #3 Variant Cover by **Arielle Jovellanos & Comcraft**

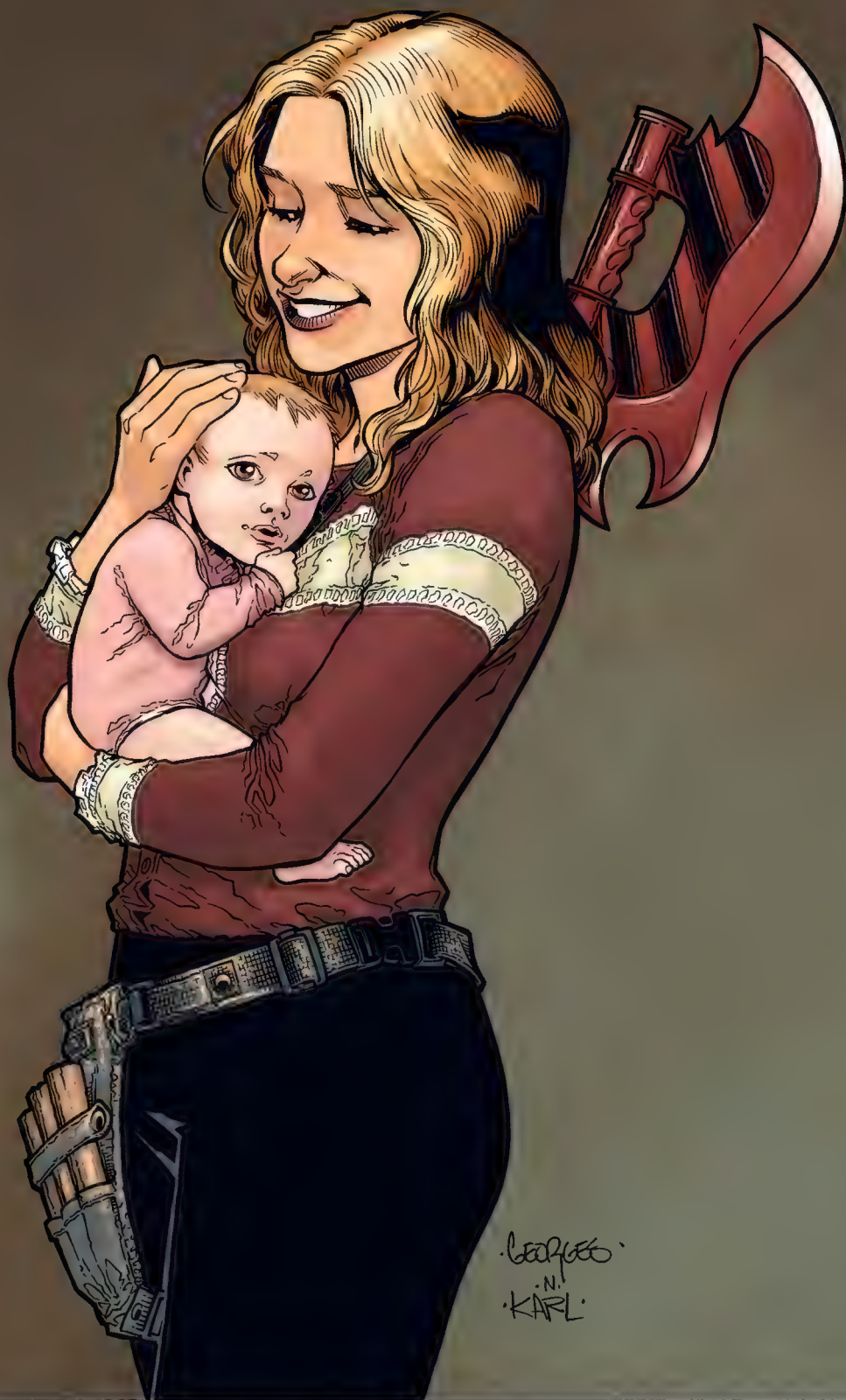


Giles: Girl Blue #4 Main Cover by **Steve Morris**





Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 12 #1 Main Cover by **Stephanie Hans**





Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 12 #1 Ultra Rare Variant Cover by **Karl Moline**



Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 12 #2 Main Cover by **Stephanie Hans**



Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 12 #2 Variant Cover by **Georges Jeanty**, **Karl Story**, & **Dan Jackson**



Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 12 #2 Ultra Rare Variant Cover by **Phil Noto**



Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 12 #3 Main Cover by **Stephanie Hans**



Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 12 #3 Variant Cover by **Georges Jeanty**, **Karl Story**, & **Dan Jackson**



Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 12 #3 Ultra Rare Variant Cover by **Scott Fischer**



Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 12 #4 Main Cover by **Stephanie Hans**





Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 12 #4 Ultra Rare Variant Cover by **Steve Morris**

EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW OF THE ONGOING SERIES

Buffy

the vampire slayer™

VOLUME ONE HIGH SCHOOL IS HELL

Written by

Jordie Bellaire

Illustrated by

Dan Mora

Colored by

Raúl Angulo

Lettered by

Ed Dukeshire

Cover by

Matthew Taylor





This town is so small, so routine.

Nothing like the city, spending some of the summer in Los Angeles was a blast.



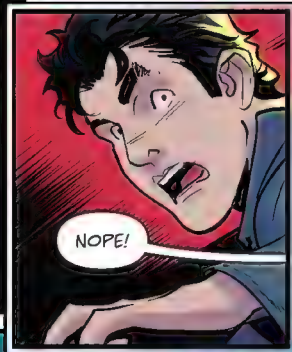
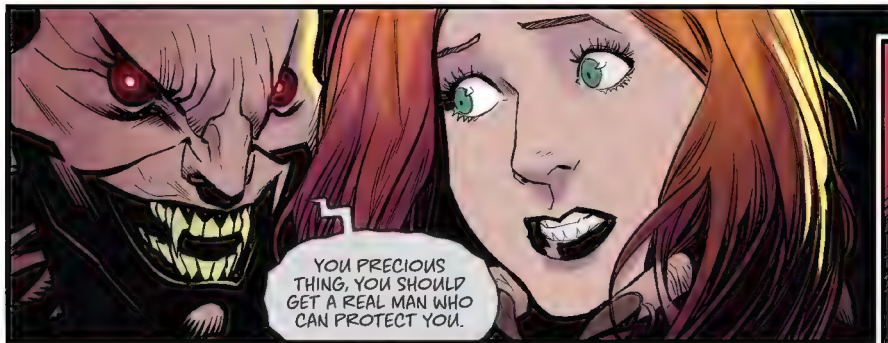
It's just so hard to make friends here. I only know like, one person.

ANTONIO, I **NEED** MY FIFTEEN BEFORE I THROW MYSELF INTO A FRYER.



I just think it's difficult to tell people what's really going on in my head.

YOU BETTER COME **BACK** THIS TIME, BUFFY. YOU'RE ON **OCTO-GUNK** DUTY. IT WON'T SCRUB ITSELF OUT OF THE SINK, YOU KNOW.





OH? WHAT WOULD THOSE BE?



Being strong is a challenge but being vulnerable feels impossible.



But does that mean I'm
just lying to myself, too?

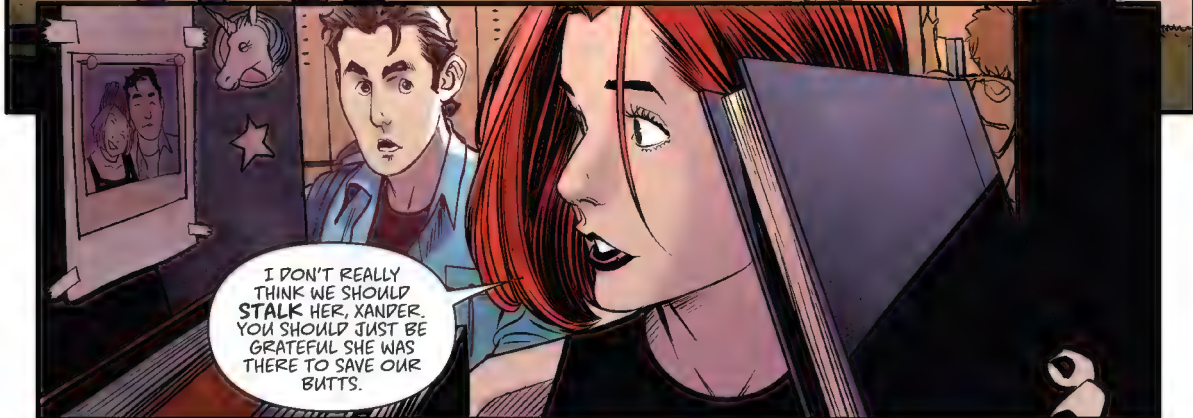
NOPE.

JUST A
BUFFY.





"I THINK WE SHOULD GO BACK, I WANT TO ASK HER MORE QUESTIONS."



I DON'T REALLY THINK WE SHOULD STALK HER, XANPER. YOU SHOULD JUST BE GRATEFUL SHE WAS THERE TO SAVE OUR BUTTS.



HOW ARE YOU NOT GOING CRAZY WITH CURIOSITY? WE KNOW NOTHING ABOUT HER!

THAT'S NOT TRUE. I KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT HER.

TELL ME! HOW DARE YOU KEEP SECRETS FROM YOUR ONE TRUE REAL LIFE FRIEND!

SHE'S WALKING INTO THE SCHOOL LIBRARY...

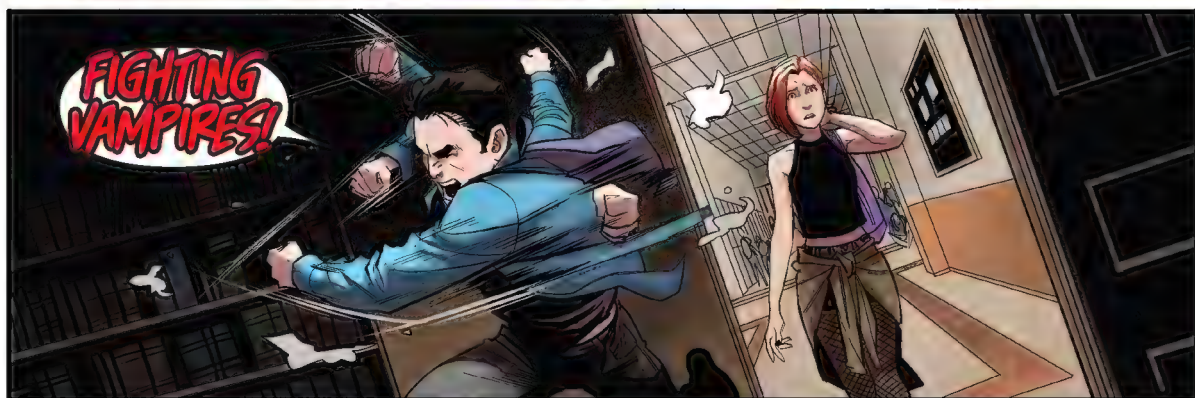
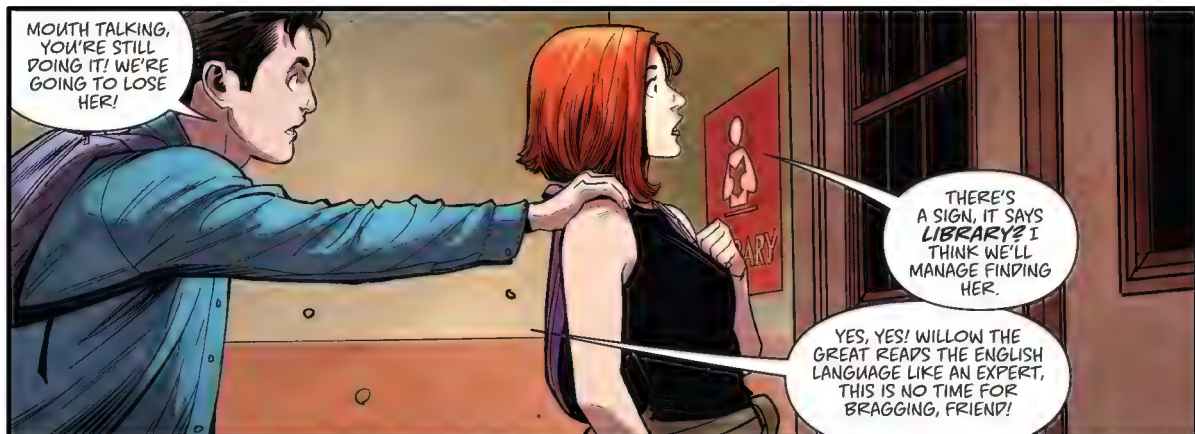


...RIGHT NOW.

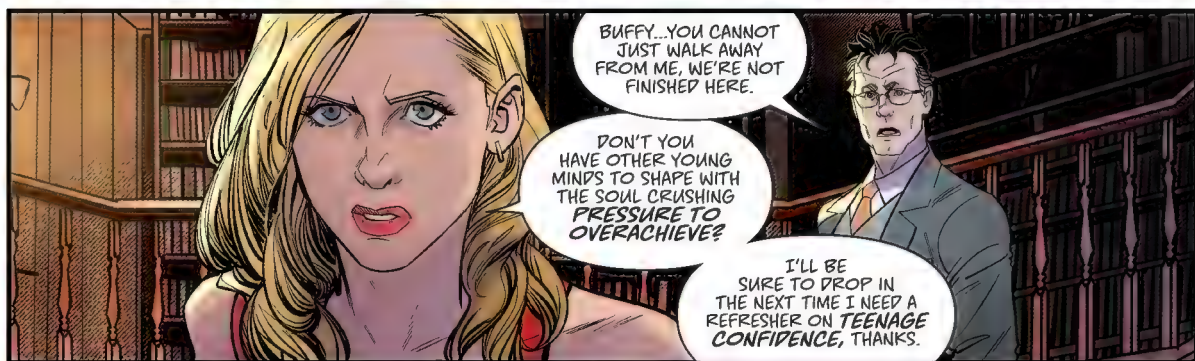


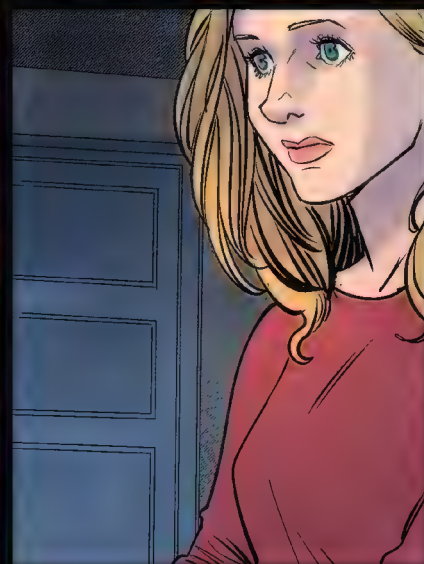
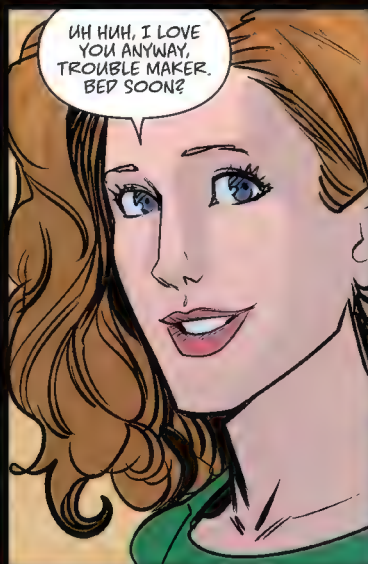
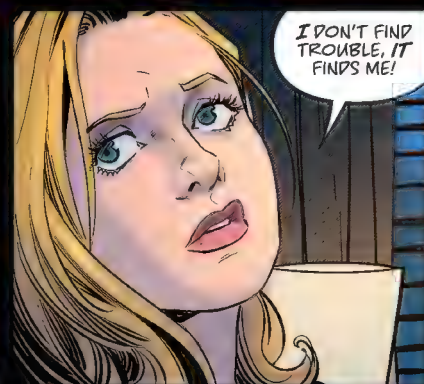
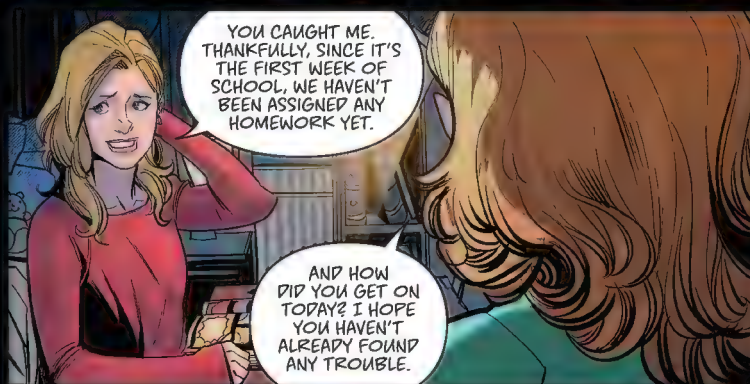
NO MORE MOUTH TALKING, WE MUST BE MOVING OUR LEGS FOR WALKING.

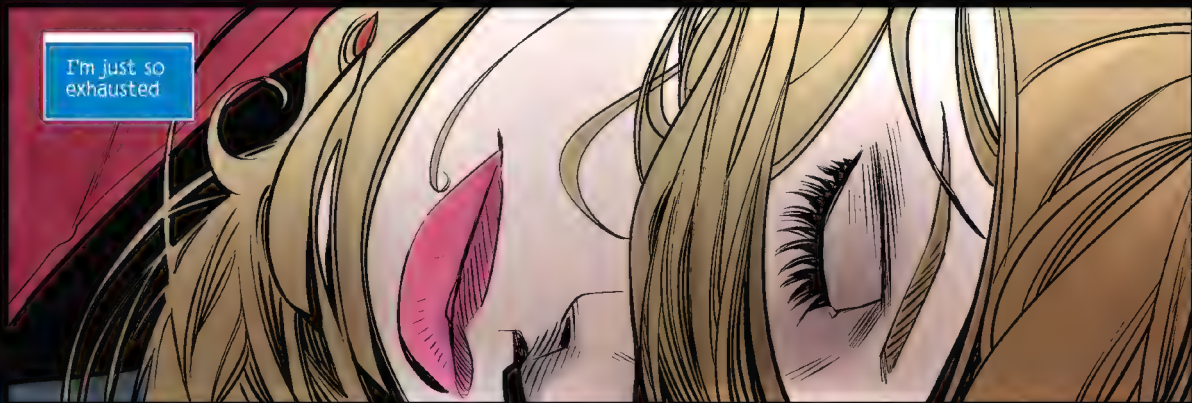
HAVE YOU BEEN THIS STRANGE SINCE WE WERE KIDS OR...?











I'm just so exhausted

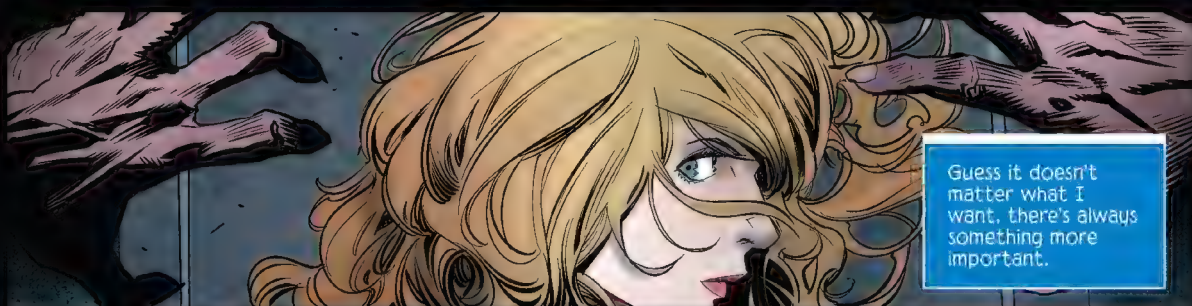


When am I going to have some time to find what I'm about?



Like, when am I going to know what I want to do with my life?

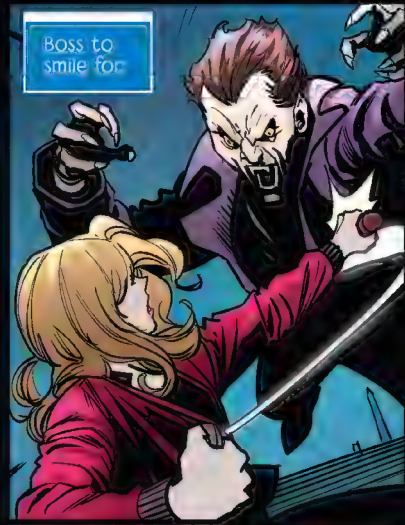
Not just doing what everyone says I'm supposed to do.



Guess it doesn't matter what I want, there's always something more important.



Always some grade to get.



Boss to smile for



Parent to please.

Friend who needs you.



THAT'S ONE UGLY NECKLACE, DID YOUR MOTHER GET IT FOR YOU?



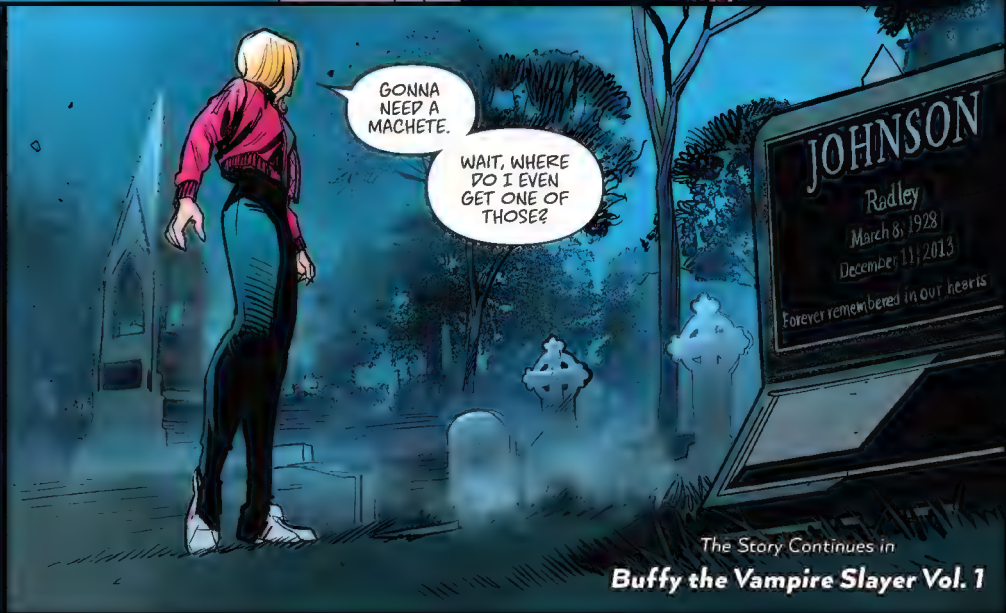
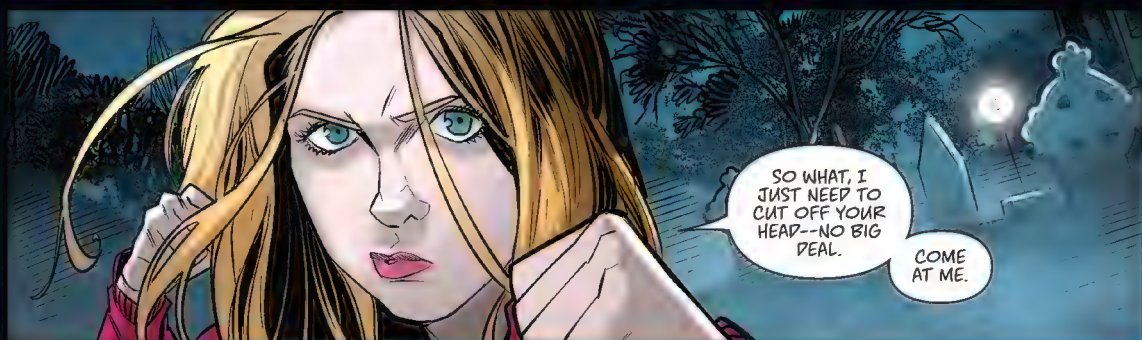
BUH?



HA! THE LEGEND WAS TRUE! THAT YARD SALE WITCH ISN'T SUCH A HAG AFTER ALL!



NO FAIR, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DIE WHEN I DO THAT!



The Story Continues in
Buffy the Vampire Slayer Vol. 1

EXPERIENCE EVEN MORE
FROM THE **WHEDONVERSE**

Buffy

the vampire slayer™

ANGEL™



With Story Consultant

JOSS WHEDON

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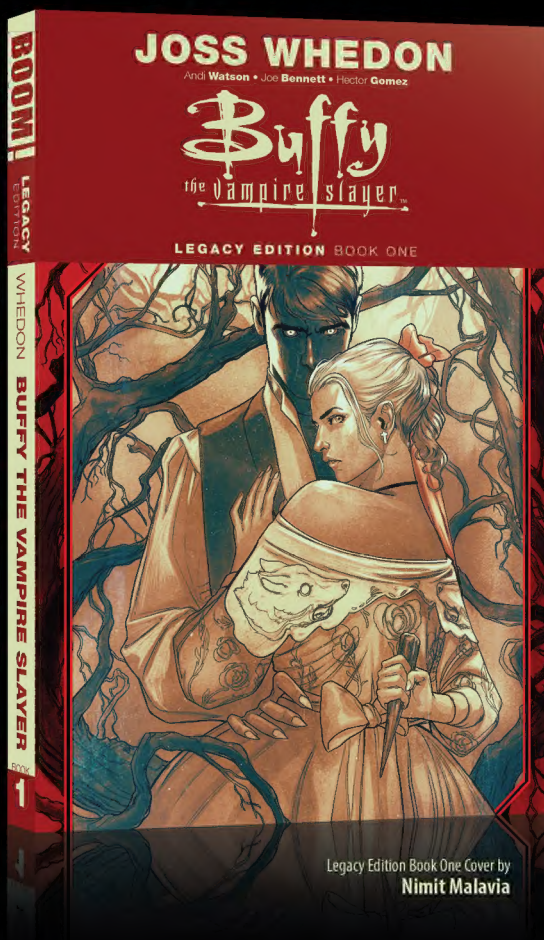
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Joss Whedon is one of Hollywood's top creators, scripting several hit films including *Marvel's The Avengers*, which was a breakout success and became one of the highest grossing films of all time, and its sequel *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, and creating one of television's most critically praised shows, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. In 2000, Whedon garnered his first Emmy nomination in the category of Outstanding Writing for a Drama Series for his groundbreaking episode entitled "Hush," and he earned an Academy Award nomination for Best Screenplay with Disney's box-office smash *Toy Story*. Originally hailing from New York, Whedon is a third-generation television writer. His grandfather and father were both successful sitcom writers on shows such as *The Donna Reed Show*, *Leave It to Beaver*, and *The Golden Girls*.

New York Times bestselling author **Christos Gage** is a Writer's Guild Award-nominated writer with credits in multiple fields. He's written for television (*Daredevil* Season 1, *Law & Order: SVU*, *Hawaii Five-O*), video games (*Spider-Man* for PS4, the all-time best selling superhero video game), comics (*Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Spider-Man*, *Avengers Academy*), original graphic novels (*Area 10*, *Sunset*), and movies (*The Breed*). He often collaborates with his wife, Ruth Fletcher Gage.

Erika Alexander is an award-winning actress, writer and producer. She is known to television fans as "Maxine Shaw" from the hit series *Living Single* (for which she won two NAACP Image Awards) and as "Cousin Pam" on *The Cosby Show*. She co-created and wrote the series *Concrete Park*.

Georges Jeanty is an Eisner Award-winning, *New York Times* best selling comic book illustrator, working across the industry on books such as *Deadpool*, *Gambit*, *Batwoman*, and the critically acclaimed *The American Way* with screenwriter John Ridley. He's probably best known for his decade-long work on Joss Whedon's *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and *Serenity*.

Jonathan Lam is a comic book interior and cover artist, concept artist and illustrator from Vancouver, Canada. He has worked with many major comic book publishers, and is renowned for his work on *Batgirl*, *Ms Marvel*, *Rose*, *Gotham Academy*, and *Buffiverse*.

Karl Story is a comic book inker, and one of the founding members of Gaijin Studios in Atlanta. Over his career he has worked on books such as *Batman*, *Nightwing*, *Alien versus Predator*, *Tom Strong*, *X-Men*, and *Midnighter*.

At the time of this printing, **Dan Jackson** has been coloring comics for over 22 years. Yep—crazy. He's happily done loads of *Buffiverse* stuff in that time.

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Buffy

the vampire slayer™

THE COMPLETE SEASON 12 COLLECTED TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME

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